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THE  
NEWSPAPER PRESS

OF  
THE PRESENT DAY:

ITS BIRTH AND GROWTH THROUGHOUT THE UNITED  
KINGDOM AND BRITISH ISLANDS, FROM 1665 ;

INCLUDING THE  
YOUNG CHEAP PRESS

AND THE  
Metropolitan and Suburban District Papers,  
1860.

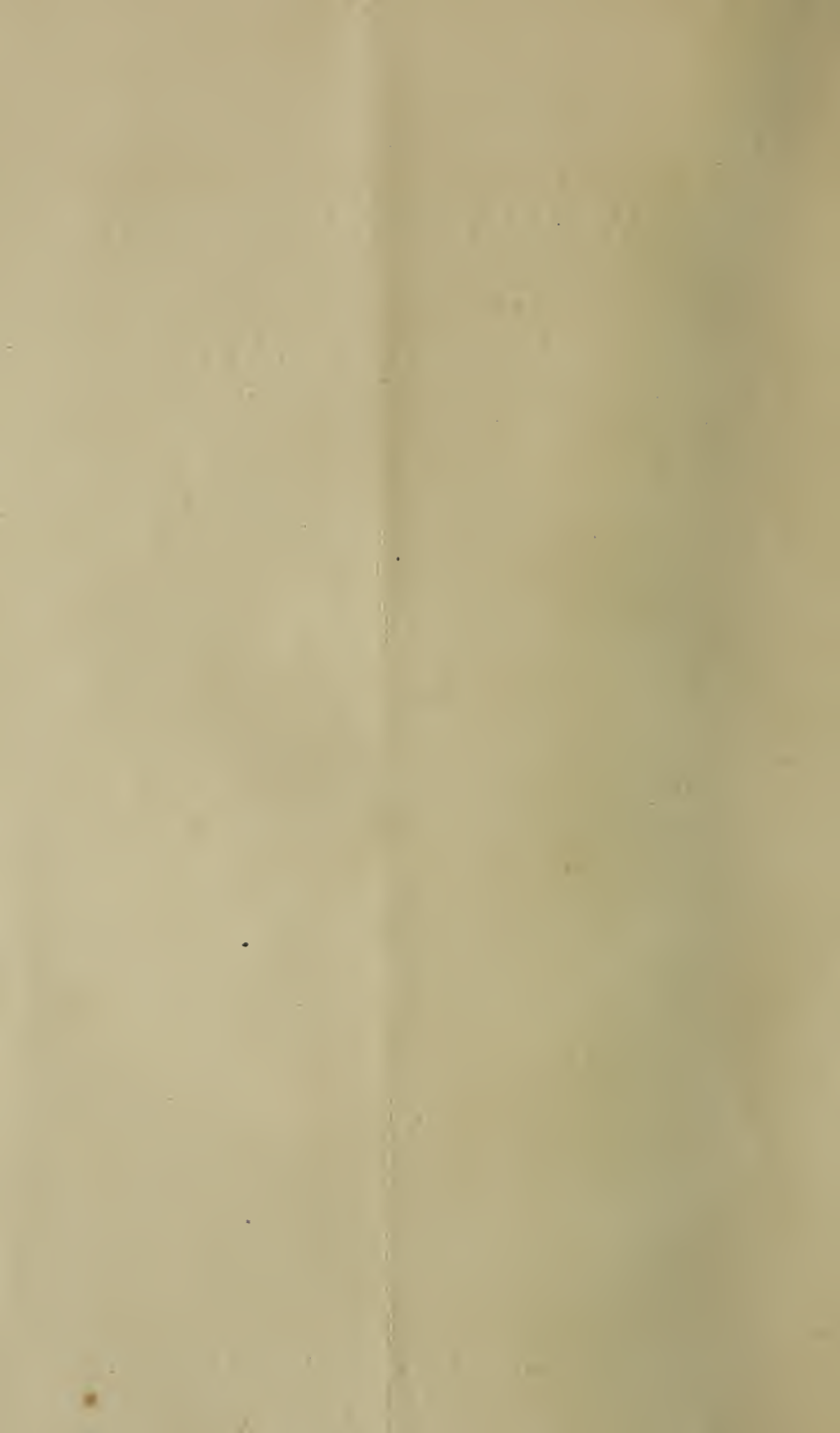
A Newspaper is the history of the world in which we now live, and  
with it we are more concerned than with days which have passed  
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BISHOP HORNE.



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 Any suggestions or proposed corrections for a future edition will be esteemed a favour. This work is the outline of a plan for the publication of one of larger dimensions relating to the NEWSPAPER PRESS EXTANT. It will embrace a fuller description of the NEWSPAPER PRESS in SCOTLAND and IRELAND, and particulars of many existing Newspapers in England not noticed in these pages. Any information relating to the "birth and growth" of Newspapers already established, and to the birth of others which may have recently come into existence, will much oblige. The larger proposed work will include a LIST OF ALL THE NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, AND THE BRITISH ISLANDS ; together with a LIST OF NEWSPAPER AGENTS AND NEWS VENDERS. Communications to be addressed to the AUTHOR OF THE "NEWSPAPER PRESS," *under cover* to Messrs. SAUNDERS, OTLEY AND Co., 50, Conduit-street, Hanover-square, London. (W.)

# THE NEWSPAPER PRESS OF THE PRESENT DAY

(1860).

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## CHAPTER I.

THE ARMY OF BRITISH NEWSPAPERS—HERALDIC PROCLAMATIONS—  
ORIGIN OF NEWSPAPERS—BIRTH, IN 1665, OF THE “LONDON  
GAZETTE” AT OXFORD—DEATH, IN 1695, OF THE LICENSING SYSTEM  
—NEWSPAPER STAMP DUTY IMPOSED IN 1712—BIRTH AND GROWTH  
OF THE NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE  
END OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

THE muster-roll of newspapers throughout the United Kingdom to the beginning of the present year (1860) bore the number 1,050. It has had many accessions since, amounting to at least 60 or 70; making, in June, 1860, an army of between 1,100 and 1,200—a goodly number! How shall we herald them? Let us, as a commencement, employ the heraldic language of the newspapers latest and best historian: “The list of our public journals is a proud and noble list; the roll of an army of liberty, with a rallying point in every town. It is a police of public safety, and a sentinel of public morals. Its watchfires are so numerous and so bright, that no native despot nor foreign invader could ever hope to extinguish them. They

are to be seen from all parts of the world, and form a chain of communication with freedom wherever it exists. Long may they be seen burning brightly and purely." This was the eloquent language of the author of "The History of British Journalism," published at the beginning of the last year (1859), when the army of British newspapers was less by 160 or 170 than it is at present. What language have other eloquent heralds employed when proclaiming the achievements of this puissant army? Here is the eulogium of one of them: "Where is not its voice heard and influence felt? In the council, in the senate, and in the halls of justice; in the ecclesiastical assembly, and in the municipal court. The making of the laws this power would seem to claim as its own prerogative, and even the execution of them is not out of the reach of its influence; for, in a country like ours, the law which has lost its hold of public sympathy cannot long be enforced, as water cannot rise higher than its fountain-head. In short, having the moulding and directing of the national mind in his hands, 'THE TYPOCRAT' appears to sit enthroned as the absolute dictator of the commonwealth, with his foot on the neck of Queen, Lords, and Commons."\*

A more recent herald of the newspaper army has proclaimed its power and influence in similar language: "The newspaper press has become the greatest power in the State; it has a voice in every question, and mingles with every interest;

\* "North British Review," vol. xxx. May, 1859.

it acts upon the springs of the world, influences every wheel in the complicated machinery of national life, determines the fate of cabinets, and moulds public sentiment.”\* Last of all, we have England’s Prime Minister proclaiming “one of the wonders of modern civilization—the BRITISH PRESS!” At a meeting at Romsey, in December, 1859, Lord Palmerston said: “If any man compares now a newspaper published in the last century with one of those wonderful sheets we read every day, the contrast is the most striking that the mind of man can imagine. The quantity of information, the talent for dissertation, the amount of news of every kind, which we now find in almost every newspaper we meet with, is really one of the most striking proofs of the progress which the human intellect has made in the days in which we live. It may be put in competition with the steam-engine and the electric telegraph.”†

Mr. Andrews’s book, which has been justly spoken of as “the fruit of much research and labour; the best, as well as the latest, on the subject,” is a “History of British Journalism from the Foundation of the Newspaper Press in England to the Repeal of the Stamp Act in 1855.” *Our* history will be a statistical one in reference to the newspaper press of the present day—the newspapers *extant*—from the founding of the *London Gazette*, under its first title of the “Oxford Gazette,” in 1665, to the beginning of 1860. We shall show the birth and growth of them; in many

\* The *Dial*, May 11, 1860.

† The *Times*, Dec. 22, 1859.

instances we shall give the exact dates of their birth, and (in reference particularly to the young recruits of the cheap press) we shall show, not when each of them separately came into existence, for that would be a tedious and unnecessary task, but in what numbers they have sprung into life in each year since the birth of the first of them—or rather of the first regiment, for they have “come not singly, but in battalions”—to the beginning of the present year (1860). We shall show to what an extent they have increased the newspaper army; and though not perhaps well received—certainly not at first—by the majors and other older soldiers, with what acclamation they have been hailed generally by the public, who have subscribed, and are still subscribing, millions of *pence* to their support. We shall not go back, with Mr. Andrews, “into the annals of another country, for the original from which the art of collecting and publishing and commenting on intelligence was copied.” We shall not attempt to describe the “*Acta Diurna*” of the Romans, the “*Gazzettas*” of Venice, the “written news,” the “news correspondents,” nor the “captain correspondents, who went a full hand-gallop, and wasted more harmless paper than ever did laxative physic;” nor shall we descant on the circumstances relating to the execution of the professional news writer—the “first martyr of journalism,” Edward Coleman; and if we allude, *en passant*, to the fabricated “*English Mercurie*” of 1588, which had been “so fondly hugged to the nation’s heart,” and for which Chalmers extolled

“the sagacity of Elizabeth and the wisdom of Burleigh,” we do so only to remind our readers that the “English Mercurie” “was *not* the first printed newspaper,” but was, in fact, an imposture palmed upon the world, and for some years accepted as genuine. Mr. Andrews refers to the doggerel news-ballads in the reign of Queen Mary as “the forerunners of the newspapers;” and to the “news books” in the time of Elizabeth and James I., “when news began to be in fashion.” He traces the origin of newspapers from the “news-ballads” and “news-books,” or pamphlets. “First,” he says, “we have the written ‘news-letter,’ furnished to the wealthy aristocracy; then, as the craving for information spread, the ‘Ballad of News,’ sung or recited; then the ‘news pamphlet,’ more prosaically arranged; then the ‘periodical’ sheet of news; and, lastly, the newspaper.”

The first newspaper of any regular series purports to have been published weekly; but there seems to have been intervals of many weeks between each publication. At length “the appearance of the weekly sheet became more regular;” but these hebdomadals seem to have encountered great hostility from many quarters. From 1621 to 1665 upwards of 350 “news-books” and “pamphlets of news” appeared. “The affairs of each town, or war, were presented in the weekly news-books.” The first publication of the proceedings in Parliament appears to have taken place in 1641 “by authority.” A great swarm of “Mercuries”

seem to have sprung up in 1643 and 1644, the price of which was generally a penny; but for some few, it seems, twopence was charged. "During the eventful period of the Civil War both parties availed themselves largely of these publications (the 'Mercuries') as the mode of communicating their successes and promoting their views." "Those which emanated from authority were printed in the camps of the respective armies. The newspaper press had become peripatetic, and sent forth its intelligence from head-quarters, now at Oxford, and next week at Worcester."\* The Civil Wars led to the introduction of newspapers into Scotland. The first appeared at Leith in 1653. Ireland had no newspaper till 1700.

The licensing system—that odious old fetter of the press—commenced in 1637. The "*severe Licensing Act*," as it has been called, was passed in 1662; and in the following year Sir Roger L'Estrange was appointed licenser, and created, under letters patent, newspaper monopolist, the "sole privilege" being accorded to him "of writing, printing, and publishing all narratives, advertisements, Mercuries, Intelligencers, Diurnals, and other books of public intelligence." Of this privilege Sir Roger lost no time in availing himself, by bringing out several newspapers of his own and putting all others to flight. He very candidly declared, in one of his prospectuses, that a public *Mercury* should never have *his* vote, because, he said, "I think it makes the multitude too familiar with the actions

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 48.

and counsels of their superiors, too pragmatical and censorious, and gives them not only an itch, but a kind of colorable right and license to be meddling with the government." But he thought that a paper of the "quality" which he proceeded to describe might be "both safe and expedient;" "truly," he adds, "if I should say necessary, perhaps the case would bear it." He then proceeded to explain how, by his "prudent management," the "vulgar might be redeemed from their former mistakes and delusions, and preserved from the like for the time to come;" how "the genius and humour of the common people might be addressed;" and how their "affections might be tuned and wrought upon." "Once a week," he says, "for aught I can see, may do the business, for I intend to utter my news by *weight* and not by *measure*." So he published his newspaper weekly; not, however, giving it the title of *Once a Week*, as celebrated publishers of the present day have given to their popular periodical, but calling it the "Public Intelligencer." De Tocqueville has said, "The newspaper is the only instrument by which the same thought can be dropped into a thousand minds at the same moment." The same thought "which dropped into the mind" of Sir Roger L'Estrange, the proprietor and publisher of the "Public Intelligencer," in 1663, and led him to announce that "once a week, for aught he could then see, might do the business," seems to have dropped into the minds of the proprietors and publishers of a modern weekly journal, the *Dial*,

after the lapse of more than two hundred years. On the first page, beneath the title, and in a parenthesis, are the words, "Once a week for the present." It was intended, we believe, to start the *Dial* as a daily journal, and for that purpose a company was formed; but second thoughts, it seems, led to the announcement of "once a week for the present." Sir Roger L'Estrange's second thoughts in 1663 were announced in these words: "If I shall find, when my hand is in, and after the planting and securing of my correspondents, that the matter will fairly furnish more, without either uncertainty, repetition, or impertinence, I shall keep myself free to double at pleasure." And he *did* double. "He got his hand in," says Mr. Andrews, and "planted his correspondents," and the result was the publication of another paper called the "News," being a kind of second edition of the "Public Intelligencer." Why, then, should not the *Dial* "double?" We hope it may see its way to do so, and if not to become, as it at first intended, a daily paper, at least to be *set going* twice a week.\*

Mr. Andrews informs us that L'Estrange continued his "Intelligencer" till the 19th January, 1665, when an organ more closely connected with, and emanating from, the Court, was suggested, and on Saturday, November 13th, appeared No. 1 of the "Oxford Gazette."

\* *Punch* has said, in reference to the title of this paper, that, if it should become a daily journal it might be appropriately called the *Seven Dials*. We can, however, tell Mr. *Punch*, that, had he lived in the days of Sir Roger L'Estrange, the licenser would never have licensed such language as this. He would "not have perceived the thing requisite;" and *Dogberry*, even to this day, would call it "flat perjury!"

And here *our* newspaper history begins. Our theme is THE NEWSPAPER PRESS EXTANT; and the *London Gazette*, being the progenitor of that press, comes first into our list. Mr. Andrews gives the following account of its birth: "The panic of the plague," he says, "had driven the Court from London, and, itself so pure, in its flight from corruption it sought safety in its 'ancient and loyal city' of Oxford. Hence, then, issued the first number of the new Government *Gazette*, being a folio half sheet, printed at Oxon by Leonard Litchfield, and published twice a week 'by authority;' an edition, in two small folio pages, was reprinted in London for the use of some merchants and gentlemen who desired the same. On the return of the Court to London, the *Gazette* was transferred to the capital, and on the 5th of February, 1666, came out as the *London Gazette*. The Government organ was at once placed under the control of Sir Joseph Williamson, the Under-Secretary of State, who procured for himself the writing of it, although he fulfilled his office by deputy, the paper being written by Sir Charles Perrot, A.M., of Oriel College, for the first five years of its existence. And thus and then was the *London Gazette* established."\*

In our newspaper pedigree we place the *Gazette* as the "common ancestor,"—the progenitor of the newspapers now existing, and with it, as we have said, our statistics begin.

In 1695, the Licensing Act was abolished, or rather expired, and an attempt which was made to

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 65.

renew it, failed. The fetter then fell off, and the Press was free! This event forms the great era in the newspaper history of the seventeenth century: "The unfettered Press now sent forth its scores of weekly papers. From the accession of William and Mary to 1692, a space of four years, twenty-six papers had sprung into existence, and they now went on increasing." . . . "Halfpenny posts and farthing posts also sprang up towards the close of the seventeenth century: mere recitals of news, rarely meddling with politics; containing on the average, from twelve to fifteen advertisements, and sold in the streets by hawkers."\* At this time the newspaper press was quite unshackled. It was not only free from a licenser's touch, but it was yet untaxed. It had no stamp duty to contend against. In 1695, the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* made its appearance at Stamford, in Lincolnshire. It is the progenitor of the provincial press; indeed, it is the oldest newspaper extant, next to the *London Gazette*.

In 1699, the *Edinburgh Gazette* was founded. We shall give some account of it under the head of Scotland; but we notice it here for the purpose of mentioning that the *London Gazette*, the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, and the *Edinburgh Gazette* are the only papers now existing which made their appearance at the latter end of the seventeenth century,—between 1664 and 1700.

The first year of the reign of Queen Anne, 1702,

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 86.

gave birth to a daily paper in London. It was called the "Daily Courant,"\* and was the first daily paper published in the metropolis. It was printed on one side only, consisting of two columns, and containing five paragraphs, one of which consisted of the prospectus, in which "the author" declared, "he would not take upon himself to give any comments or conjectures of his own, but would relate only matter of facts, supposing other people to have sense enough to make reflections for themselves." The "Courant," for a considerable time, occupied the field alone, but at length two rivals appeared,—the "Daily Post" and the "Daily Journal."

In 1712, a stamp duty was first imposed upon newspapers. Before referring to the Act of Queen Anne, which created that impost, we will mention the names of the newspapers extant which had their existence in the United Kingdom before the tax was imposed. Going back to the time when the *London Gazette* came into existence, we have seen that on its birth at Oxford, in November, 1665, it took the name of its birthplace, and was called the "Oxford Gazette," which name it bore only during the first three months of its infancy, when it was transferred, with the Court of Charles II., from "the ancient and loyal city of Oxford," to the more ancient and important city of Westminster, where it made its appearance on the 5th

\* In Mr. Knight Hunt's "Fourth Estate," and in the "Encyclopædia Britannica," and several other works, 1709 is given as the date of the birth of the daily press; but Mr. Andrews shows the correct date to be 1702.

February, 1666, taking, then, the name of the great metropolis, and calling itself the *London Gazette*, under which name it has flourished to a green old age, being now in its 196th year, and more robust and bulky than ever.

The next member of the great newspaper family, which appeared at the latter end of the seventeenth century, had no direct propinquity to the *London Gazette*. Its birth was neither at Oxford nor London, but in the midland county of Lincoln. The *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, it will have been seen, had its birth at Stamford, in 1695. The elder brother of the *London Gazette* was the *Edinburgh Gazette*. It made its appearance in the capital of Scotland in 1699, during the reign of William III. The immediate successors of the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*—confining ourselves to the newspapers extant in the reign of Queen Anne—are *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, which came out at Worcester in 1709;\* the *Nottingham Journal*, which had its birth at Nottingham in 1710; and the *Newcastle Courant*, which made its appearance at Newcastle in 1711. The *Dublin Gazette*, younger brother of the *London Gazette*, came into existence in the metropolis of Ireland in the same year, 1711.†

The events forming three of the principal eras

\* In this year we find 18 papers published in the metropolis—17 thrice a week, and 1 twice: none of these are now existing.

† This is the date given in "Mitchell's Newspaper-Press Directory" and several other newspaper lists; but in Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates" it is stated that the *Dublin Gazette* was first published, in an official form, in 1767.

in newspaper history up to 1855 are: (1) The old Licensing Act of 1662; (2) its cessation in 1695; (3) the impost of a stamp duty in 1712; (4) its reduction in 1836 to 1*d.*; (5) its total abolition as a newspaper duty in 1855. From the first two of these dates it will be seen that the newspaper press was under the censorship of a licenser for upwards of thirty years. Its emancipation has continued to the present time. For seventeen years it remained wholly untrammelled, but was not destined to continue so. In 1712 its growth was checked by the burthen of a tax in the shape of a stamp duty. This burthen was put upon it by the 10th Anne, c. 19; and from 1712 to 1855,—a period of nearly a century and a half,—it was never entirely removed. The amount of duty at first was 1*d.*, at which it continued for forty-eight years, but it was afterwards increased, first to 1½*d.*, next to 2*d.*, next to 2½*d.*, and next to 4*d.*, at which it continued till 1836, when it was reduced to 1*d.* At that amount it continued till 1855, when it was totally abolished as a newspaper stamp duty. The other kindred of the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* (in subsequent reigns) are the *Kentish Gazette*, at Canterbury, in 1717, and the *Leeds Mercury*, in Yorkshire, in 1718. The *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, in the same year, was the first of the Scotch newspaper family next to the *Edinburgh Gazette*, and the *Caledonian Mercury*, in 1720, the second. Other descendants (extant) of the English provincial press, in the early part of the eighteenth century, are the following: The *Salisbury and*

*Winchester Journal*; the *Norwich Mercury*; and the *Northampton Mercury*, all in 1720: the *Gloucester Journal* in 1722; and the *Reading Mercury* in 1723.

We find that in 1724, there were eighteen papers—all long since defunct—published in London; three daily, ten thrice a week (three being what were called “halfpenny posts”), and three weekly.

In Dublin, in 1725, we find the *Dublin Evening Post*. Between 1725 and 1737, the following papers came into existence in four of the English counties. The *Chester Courant*, at Chester, and the *Chelmsford Chronicle*, in Essex, in 1730; the *Derby Mercury*, at Derby, in 1732, and the *Western Flying Post*, at Yeovil, in Somersetshire, in 1736. In the following year, 1737, the town of Belfast, in Ireland, gave birth to its first offspring, which it named the *Belfast News Letter*. Neither Ireland nor Scotland, up to this time, seems to have been very prolific in newspaper progeny. In the former country, we had no accession to the “Press” family till 1746; and in Scotland, none till 1748.\* In the meantime, we had the following in the English provinces. In 1739, the *Ipswich Journal*; in 1741, *Aris’s Birmingham Gazette*, and the *Coventry Standard*; in 1742, the *Bath Journal* (Keene’s), and in 1745, the *Sussex Advertiser*, at Lewes. Then, in 1746, *Saunders’s News Letter* appeared in Dublin; and in the same year, the

\* The *Aberdeen Journal* appeared in 1746; but, after issuing its first number, the publication of “further intelligence” was suspended for two years.

*Aberdeen Journal* published its first number, containing an account of the battle of Culloden. "There appears to have been but very little demand for newspapers in Scotland, for it is believed that at the period of the rebellion of 1745, there were only, in the whole of Scotland, three newspapers, two of which were published in Edinburgh and one in Glasgow."\* None of the other newspapers extant in Scotland made their appearance till 1790. In Cambridgeshire, in 1748, appeared the *Cambridge Chronicle*; in Leicestershire, in 1753, the *Leicester Journal*; at Oxford, in 1754, the *Oxford Journal*, and in the same year, at Leeds, in Yorkshire, the *Leeds Intelligencer*, severally made their appearance. In 1757, Bath gave birth to its second offspring, the *Bath Chronicle*.

Up to this time, no newspaper now existing in London had made its appearance. Many had "come and gone." In 1759, the *Public Ledger* which, next to the *London Gazette*, is the oldest descendant extant of the London journals, was founded.

In 1760, the stamp duty on newspapers was increased from one penny to three-halfpence, at which amount it continued till 1789. In the same year (1760), Ireland had an accession of newspaper family at Sligo, that town having then given birth to the first of its family, the *Sligo Journal*. A year afterwards, the *St. James's Chronicle* made its appearance in London. In the same year, 1761, the birth of the *Norfolk Chronicle*, at Norwich, took

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 292.

place. This was followed, in 1763, by the birth, at Exeter, of the *Exeter Flying Post*, and, in Dublin, of the *Freeman's Journal*.<sup>\*</sup> In 1764, the *Sherborne Journal*, in the West of England (Dorsetshire), and the *Newcastle Chronicle* in the North, made their appearance. In the following year, 1765, Liverpool gave birth to its second offspring, the *Liverpool General Advertiser*. In 1766, Limerick, in Ireland, produced the *Chronicle* which bears its name. Kilkenny followed with its *Journal* in the next year, 1767. In the same year, Bristol produced its *Gazette*. In that year, also, the *Leeds Mercury*, which had lain dormant from 1755—its birth having taken place in 1718,—was, after a period of twelve years, resuscitated. From that time to the present its growth has been most vigorous. It is, as everybody knows, one of the Hercules tribe of the newspaper press.

And now we come to the second oldest paper extant in London next to the *London Gazette*—the *Morning Chronicle*.<sup>†</sup> That paper was ushered into the metropolis of England in 1770, followed, in 1772, by the *Morning Post*. In 1772, and several years following, the English counties increased the newspaper family considerably. In 1772, the *Hampshire Chronicle*, at Winchester, and the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, in Shropshire, made their appearance; and in the same year, at Londonderry, Ireland gave birth to the *Londonderry Journal*.

<sup>\*</sup> There are discrepancies in the statements as to the birth of the *Freeman's Journal*. Haydn's "Dates" fixes it in 1755; Mr. Andrews says 1746; and "Mitchell" puts it as 1763.

<sup>†</sup> The *Morning Chronicle* is now (June, 1860) published at twopence.

In 1773, the *Chester Chronicle*, at Chester, and the *Bristol Mercury*, at Bristol, were produced. In 1773, the *Racing Calendar* (published in London) appeared. In 1774, *Eddowes's Journal*, at Shrewsbury, the *Cumberland Packet*, at Whitehaven, and the *Kerry Evening Post*, at Tralee, in Ireland, came forth. In 1776, Ireland had another increase. At Ennis, County Clare, the *Clare Journal* made its appearance.

In 1777, there were 17 newspapers published in London—7 daily morning papers, 8 thrice a week, 1 twice a week, and 1 weekly—of these, only 5 are now existing—viz., the *Public Ledger*, the *St. James's Chronicle*, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Morning Post*, and the *Racing Calendar*. In 1781, London produced the *Morning Herald*. In 1782, appeared, in Mark-lane, *Prince's Price Current*. In the same year, Bury St. Edmunds, in Suffolk, gave birth to the *Bury and Norwich Post*.

In 1785, came out, in very humble guise, in London, the "Daily Universal Register," a paper of four pages; the "price of the first number was twopence-halfpenny, and the printer and proprietor was John Walter, of Printing-house-square. In three years, Mr. Walter found the title of his paper inconvenient, and on the 1st of January, 1788, forged that iron name which every morning knocks at the door of a sleeping world, and bids it, in a voice of thunder, wake! THE TIMES!"\* Mr. Andrews observes, that it made little or no sensation in the world, and gave no indications of future

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 226.

power; that its circulation was small and sluggish; and that when, in 1803, eighteen years after its first appearance as the "Daily Universal Register," its original founder yielded up its management into the hands of his son, it did not exceed one thousand copies a day. At that time, according to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, the *Morning Post* circulated four thousand five hundred copies daily; but the circulation of the *Morning Herald* and other papers existing at that time, did not exceed three thousand eight hundred. The circulation of the *Times*, however, was below them all.

In 1786, Maidstone produced its *Journal*, and in the same year, and the following, 1787, Yorkshire gave birth to the *Doncaster Gazette* and the *Hull Packet*.

In 1789, the newspaper stamp duty was increased from three-halfpence to twopence, at which amount it continued till 1797. In that year (1789) the *Evening Mail* (offspring of the *Times*) made its appearance in Printing-house-square. In the same year, the *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette*, at Exeter, the *Wolverhampton Chronicle*, in Staffordshire, and the *Gazette de Guernsey* (in French) at Guernsey, were brought out. In 1790, Scotland had an accession in the West. In that year the *Glasgow Courier* made its appearance. In the same year, Bristol gave birth to its *Mercury*, and York to its *Herald*. In 1792, the *Sun* made its appearance in London. This was the second daily London evening paper, its forefather, the *Star*, of 1788, of which Peter Stuart was proprietor, being the first.

“Mitchell” tells us that Mr. Murdo Young, the proprietor of the *Sun*, “was the first to adopt the system of the speedy transmission of intelligence into the country;” and Mr. Andrews says, that in 1835 Mr. Young was presented with two testimonials—one from Sheffield, the other from Manchester, for “expressing” to those towns the result of the election for the Speakership of the House of Commons, “with so much expedition.” “Mitchell” moreover says, “perhaps the morning mails have now somewhat superseded Mr. Murdo Young’s system.” We, however, cannot but think that the electric telegraph, and not the “morning mails,” has superseded Mr. Young’s “Expresses.” In 1792, also appeared the *Observer* (Sunday paper), the *County Chronicle*, and the *County Herald*; the *Kent Herald*, at Canterbury, and the *Bath Herald*, at Bath. In 1794, the *Morning Advertiser* made its appearance in London, the *Hull Advertiser* at Hull, and the *Worcester Herald* at Worcester. In 1795, the county of Stafford produced the *Staffordshire Advertiser*. In 1796, *Bell’s Weekly Messenger* (London paper) appeared. The *Kelso Mail*, at Kelso, in Scotland, came out in 1797. In that year the newspaper-stamp duty was increased from twopence to twopence-halfpenny, and continued at that amount till 1815. In 1798, Carlisle gave birth to the *Carlisle Journal*, and Portsmouth produced the *Hampshire Telegraph*. In 1799, the *Greenock Advertiser* had its birth at Greenock, in Scotland.

We have thus given, in chronological order, a

list of all the newspapers in the United Kingdom which came into existence during the eighteenth century, and which are still existing. We have not recorded the births and deaths of those that are gone, our statistics having reference only to the living, and to the survivors of the departed, and their children and children's children. We may here mention, that no paper extant was in existence, during the last century, in either of the following seven counties—Bedford, Huntingdon, Cornwall, Hereford, Monmouth, Westmoreland, Durham, nor in Wales.

## CHAPTER II.

BIRTH AND GROWTH OF THE NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN LONDON FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE PRESENT CENTURY—REDUCTION IN 1836 OF THE NEWSPAPER STAMP DUTY TO ONE PENNY—ABOLITION OF IT IN 1855—INCREASE IN THE NUMBER AND CIRCULATION OF NEWSPAPERS.

DURING the first part of the present century, newspaper progress throughout the United Kingdom was slow. In 1809, London had 63 papers. Among them were the *Weekly Dispatch*, which came out in 1801; *Bent's Literary Advertiser*, a monthly paper, which appeared in 1802; the *Globe*, daily evening paper, in 1803; and the *Examiner* in 1808. In 1813 there were only 56 papers published in London—viz., 8 daily morning papers, and 7 evening; 7 thrice a week (evening papers); and 34 weekly, of which 16 were Sunday papers. In 1815, the newspaper stamp duty was increased from twopence half-penny to fourpence, on which amount, however, a discount of twenty per cent. was allowed, thus reducing the amount actually paid to threepence and one-fifth. In that year (1815) there were 55 newspapers published in London. No other paper, extant, appeared in the metropolis until 1817, when the *Literary Gazette* was started. In 1820, the *John Bull* and *Bell's Life in London* made their appearance. The *Sunday Times* came out in 1822; the *Lancet* in

1823; the *Musical World* in 1825; the *Atlas* in 1826; the *Spectator*, the *Athenæum*, the *Record*, and the *Bankers' Circular* in 1828; the *Court Journal* and the *Universal Corn Reporter* in 1829. In 1832, the *Patriot*, the *Mercantile Journal*, the *Mark Lane Express*, and the *Commercial Daily List* made their appearance; followed, in 1833, by the *Naval and Military Gazette*, and the *United Service Gazette*. In 1833, there were altogether 55 newspapers published in London—viz., 13 daily papers, 6 thrice a-week, and 36 weekly. In that year, the total number of newspapers in the United Kingdom and the British Islands was 363. The only new papers extant published in London between 1833 and 1836 were the *Watchman*, the *Mining Journal*, and the *Railway Journal*, all of which appeared in 1835. In 1836, the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* was brought out.

The Act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 76, reducing the stamp duty from fourpence to one penny, came into operation from the end of 1836. The price of the London journals was then lowered from sevenpence to fivepence, and that of most of the provincial papers was reduced to fourpence halfpenny or fourpence.

“The stimulus which the new regulations gave to newspaper enterprise upon the passing of the Act in 1836, was shown in the number of new papers started immediately. At the end of the year there had been one new daily, two twice a-week, twenty-three weekly, one fortnightly, and

one occasional newspaper, started in London alone. Of these, eight were discontinued and two incorporated. In the provinces, within the same period, there had been thirty-five new weekly papers, and one three times a week, of which six were dropped or incorporated with others.\* From the date of the reduction of the stamp, the newspaper became more than ever emphatically a popular institution. It addressed and influenced a far wider circle; its power was extended and strengthened, instead of being weakened, as had been apprehended by some; and the *Times* itself soon found that it did not increase the facilities it had so dreaded, for setting up new and cheaply got-up daily papers; but 'the leading journal' experienced only a little of that root-pruning which gives, to newspapers as well as trees, additional vigour and fruitfulness."†

In the year ending 15th September, 1836, there were 397 newspapers circulated in the United Kingdom. Of these, London had 71. In 1837 there were 458 newspapers published in the United Kingdom, 85 of which were established in London. In 1838, there were in England and Wales 334 newspapers; in Scotland, 64, of which 16 belonged

\* Very few of the progeny seem to have survived. Only three papers in London now existing were founded shortly after the passing of the Act in 1836; and amongst the provincial papers extant there are very few which appear to have come into existence in 1837; but there can be no doubt that the circulation of all the papers then existing was greatly increased by the removal of the high stamp duty which had so long fettered the newspaper press.

† "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 236.

to Edinburgh; in Ireland, 84, of which 26 belonged to Dublin. There were then five daily papers in Dublin; Scotland had no daily paper at that time,—*now* there are seven. In Ireland there are thirteen. It will be seen by the above enumeration, that in 1838 Ireland had the ascendancy over Scotland in the number of its newspapers by twenty. Now its number, as compared with that in Scotland, is diminished by nine. In Scotland the number at the beginning of 1860 was 138; while in Ireland it was 129.

Just before the reduction of the stamp duty in 1836, the annual circulation of newspapers in Great Britain was about twenty-nine millions. In 1853, the annual circulation of England and Wales was seventy-two millions, and of Scotland, eight millions; that of Ireland being also about eight millions. In that year there were, in round numbers, six hundred newspapers proper in the United Kingdom; fourteen being London daily papers; six twice and thrice a week, and seventy-one weekly; and about five hundred provincial papers. Of the London daily papers, about twenty-four millions were at that time annually circulated, of which the *Times* had the lion's share of fourteen millions. The weekly papers had a circulation of twenty-four millions; and of the provincial English press there were at that time twenty-six great cities and towns which numbered eighty papers; and those consumed thirteen millions of stamps, leaving only ten millions more to be distributed amongst the entire newspaper press of England;

the Welsh annual circulation being under one million.\*

We have shown that the circulation of all the papers which had been established up to 1836 received a great impetus on the removal, in that year, of the heavy clog which for nearly a century and a quarter had pressed upon it in the form of a high stamp duty; and we have shown, also, the increase in the number of newspapers in 1837 and 1838. In a summary published at the beginning of the present year (1860), it was stated that, in 1840 there were 472 newspapers published in the United Kingdom; and that in 1850 there were 443. This latter number, however, appears by other summaries to be somewhat understated. In one of the published tables, the number shown is 518. We will, however, take it in round numbers at 500. From 1850 to 1855 the number had increased by 150, making altogether at that time (1855) 650.

A new era in newspaper history now arose. The stamp duty, which had existed from 1712, was now, in June, 1855, by the Act of 18 and 19 Victoria, c. 27, totally abolished as a compulsory impost. It has been remarked that, "in common with everything of signal strength, journalism is a plant of slow and gradual growth." Mr. Andrews has also remarked that the newspaper press had been slow in climbing to the height it had attained at the period to which he brought down his history

\* "The Old Printer and the Modern Press," by Charles Knight. p. 292.

(1855). Its rapid progress, however, since has been remarkable. From June, 1855, to January, 1860—being a period of only four years and a half—the number of newspapers in the United Kingdom had increased by 400; a number nearly equalling the total number of newspapers extant since the year 1665 (when the *London Gazette* was founded) to the beginning of 1850. At that time there were, as we have shown, not more than 500 (if so many) newspapers existing in Great Britain and Ireland. Up to January, 1860, there were 1,050, and now there are between 1,100 and 1,200. These facts will be attested by the details in the following pages, and by the summary in page 113. We do not add to the number of papers existing at the beginning of 1860 any that have been started since, of which there are many; and by the end of the year there will, no doubt, be a further large addition; indeed, it would seem that every town in the kingdom is, by and bye, to have its newspaper. “A company is forming,” said an advertisement in the *Times* in May last, “for the purpose of supplying proprietors of country newspapers with paper printed on one side, containing the latest parliamentary and city intelligence, foreign news, telegrams, &c.; also for the establishing of local daily and weekly papers (entirely printed in London) where none now exists, the local news being forwarded by the last train up at night and returned ready printed by the first train leaving London in the morning, with the *Times* and other papers, thus saving the cost of local printing

establishments, and enabling every town in the kingdom to have its local daily or weekly paper." How different will this state of things be, if such a project should be carried out, from that which existed in the time of King Charles's Licenser and Newspaper Patentee, Sir Roger L'Estrange, who got all his matter written and set up "upon the Tuesday night," left "Wednesday entire for the printing of it off," and published his newspaper "on the Thursday!" But this announcement may turn out to be premature. It was certainly made in anticipation of the repeal of the paper duty after the Bill had passed the House of Commons. The operations were to have commenced simultaneously with the repeal; but the paper duty is *not* repealed!\* The honourable member for Birmingham has, however, declared that the day is not far distant when a daily paper will be found in the cottage of every poor man in the kingdom.†

It will be seen by the summary in page 113, that the increase of newspapers within the five years between 1855 and 1860 has been in the following proportions, viz.: In England it has been nearly four-fifths of the total number of newspapers extant in the different counties from the year 1665, when the *London Gazette* was first issued. In several of the English counties the number has been doubled within the last five years. In Wales the increase has been nearly half of the total

\* The "Company" is, we believe, now formed, and its operations have commenced.

† Mr. Bright's speech at a Reform Meeting at Birmingham, May 30, 1860.

number of papers extant in the Principality since the year 1804, when the *Swansea Cambrian* (the oldest paper in Wales) was established. In Scotland the increase has been more than half the total number of newspapers extant in that part of the United Kingdom since the first issuing of the *Edinburgh Gazette* in the reign of Charles II. In Ireland the increase has been more than a third of the total number of newspapers extant there since the *Dublin Gazette* was established. In the British islands the increase has been a fourth of the total number of newspapers extant in those islands since the year 1789, when the *Gazette de Guernsey* was established.

The newspapers extant in the United Kingdom were established during the last 195 years. The increase from 1665 is shown in subsequent pages at four different periods: (1) from the first issuing of the oldest paper extant in each county to the year 1800; (2) from 1800 to 1830; (3) from 1830 to 1855; (4) from 1855 to 1860.

We have stated that in June, 1855, the penny stamp duty was totally abolished as a newspaper duty, the stamp being retained only for postal purposes—a convenience, in fact, for the transmission of newspapers by post. The beneficial result of this total abolition is shown by the fact not only of the increased circulation of most of the journals in the United Kingdom, but by the great increase of newspapers in every part of England, Ireland, and Scotland since that time; and the details which are given in these pages of the in-

crease in each county will doubtless be read with interest by those who had been long and earnestly advocating a "cheap press." It will be seen by one of the summaries that in the period between 1800 and 1830 only 126 of the newspapers extant were established; that from 1830 to 1855 (*twenty-five years*) the number was 411; and that in the next succeeding (short) period of *five years*—viz., from 1855 to 1860—the number was 424!

One very remarkable feature of the "cheap press" is the establishment, within the last five years, in the metropolis and its suburbs, of what may be called DISTRICT NEWSPAPERS more particularly noticed in Chapter IV. Another noticeable fact is, that, since the stamp duty was taken off, newspapers to the number of one hundred and twenty have been established in one hundred and two towns in England where none had before existed, besides several in Scotland and Ireland. This will be seen by the enumeration in page 98 of newspapers in the different counties, and by the summary in page 114.

The number of newspapers established in the metropolis to the beginning of 1860, was 202; of which the class papers form the great bulk. They alone number 125. Of the total number (202) of metropolitan newspapers to the beginning of January, 1860, 92 came into existence within the last five years. Of these, six are daily journals—three morning and three evening, viz.: the *Daily Telegraph*, which appeared in 1855, the *Morning Star* and *Evening Star* in 1856, the *Standard* in

1857, the *Evening Reporter* in 1859, all penny papers; and the *Evening Herald*, fourpence. The *Standard* (conservative paper) was formerly a full-priced evening journal.

The total number of daily papers established in London to 1860 (including shipping, commercial, and mercantile journals) is twenty-one, of which eight are evening papers, and there are three which are issued three times a week. The total number of weekly, fortnightly, and monthly papers,—of which one hundred and twenty-five are class journals, and seventeen are the metropolitan district papers,—to January, 1860, was one hundred and seventy-seven.

The abolition of the stamp duty in 1855 not only brought new papers into existence, but gave a great impulse to newspaper circulation generally. "Thirty years ago," says the "British Quarterly Review," "the *Times* was said to circulate nearly ten thousand copies; it now circulates upwards of seventy thousand. The *Herald* ranged next with a circulation of eight thousand, and the *Chronicle*, *longo intervallo*, followed at four thousand. The four remaining papers—the *Post*, the *Advertiser*, the *Public-Ledger*, and the *Morning Journal* possessed no weight, and had only a small fluctuating sale. The last of these has long ceased to exist, and in its place five\* new morning papers have sprung up, commanding a circulation far transcending that of the whole of their predecessors. If the statement of one of the cheap papers may be

\* At the present time there are only four; one of them, the "Morning News," having been discontinued.

relied upon, that single journal alone circulates nearly four times as much as the entire morning press of 1829 added together. Any person who has observed the extraordinary consumption of the *Telegraph*, *Standard*, and *Star*, at railroad stations, on board the Thames steamboats, and in all the leading (metropolitan) thoroughfares and public places, must be aware that the circulation of newspapers has undergone not a change but a revolution. It has not only spread beyond its former limits, but it has created or absorbed a wholly new class of readers. The penny journal, containing an ample supply of the usual current news, excellent and reliable foreign correspondence, literary criticisms often distinguished by greater independence than those of journals of higher pretensions, and leading articles of more than average ability, and to its honour, we may add, conducted generally with moderation and good taste, has penetrated to thousands of obscure and populous recesses in which the luxury of a daily paper was unknown before. The circulation of the whole of the morning papers, in 1829, could hardly have exceeded 27,000 daily; the circulation of the whole of the morning papers now (1859) in existence may be roughly set down at 300,000; and if the announcements of some of them may be credited, it is undoubtedly much larger.\* The progress of the weekly press is even more striking. The circulation of the whole of the Saturday and Sunday

\* It is said that the circulation of the *Times* is now, June, 1860, only about a third of the daily press.

papers was estimated, in 1829, at 110,000, considerably less than the "guaranteed" circulation of the least successful of the present cheap papers, of which there are several competitors, whose sales are stated by themselves—we know not with what degree of truth—to range from 130,000 to 200,000 each.\*

\* "The British Quarterly Review" for April, 1859.

## CHAPTER III.

THE CLASS JOURNALS—NAVAL AND MILITARY—CIVIL SERVICE—SHIP-  
PING—COMMERCIAL—MERCANTILE—AGRICULTURAL—MINING—  
RAILWAY—ENGINEERING—ARCHITECTURAL—BUILDING—BANKING  
—LAW—MEDICAL—SURGICAL—CHEMICAL—INDIAN AND COLONIAL  
—RELIGIOUS—EDUCATIONAL—LITERARY—ARTS AND SCIENCES—  
MUSIC—INSURANCE—PHOTOGRAPHY—GARDENING—SPORTING—  
RACING—THE TURF—THE RING—ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPERS.

“IN addition to the regular and irregular newspapers, daily and weekly, there are a vast number of special journals which have grown up within a quarter of a century, and which occupy new ground that may be said to have been discovered within thirty years. The name of these journals, as Dryden says of the prototypes of Sir Fopling Flutter, is ‘Legion.’ They form that group which is commonly, but inaccurately called, class journals, and which might more properly be called representative journals, because they represent not only classes but professions, arts, occupations, almost every ramification of industry, and every branch of study and inquiry. The turf and the Stock Exchange, the coal fields and the dockyards, Pater-noster-row and the playhouses, are as faithfully represented by the *Eclipse*, the *Economist*, the *Mining Journal* and the *Shipping Gazette*, *Bent’s Advertiser* and the *Era*, and other special papers, as our Eastern empire is by the *Indian Mail*, or as the wants of India and Australia, in the way of intelligence, are sup-

plied by the *Home News*. Creeds of every denomination, embracing every episode of belief and unbelief, are defended by a phalanx of journals, with the *Record* and the *Tablet* posted at extremities, and the *Jewish Chronicle* in the rear. Science speaks through many organs; medicine and surgery have their journals, dedicated not only to general principles, but to particular diseases; law spreads its meshes in innumerable weeklies; the wood engravers flourish in journals of prodigious circulation; archæology and numismatics, music and statistics, table-turning and needlework, the fashions and the pawnbrokers, engineering and photography, railways and the rights of women, chess, gardening and gas-lighting, education and emigration, philosophy and the army and navy, courtiers, sailors, and hop-pickers, publicans and the temperance societies, are severally represented by papers whose express function it is to expound the views and promote the objects of their constituents; and in some instances the representation is fiercely contested by a crowd of candidates.”\*

The crowd has increased considerably within the last year or two, and the increase is continuing at a rapid pace. Up to January, 1860, the number was 125. These papers have, for the most part, been established within the last twenty-five or thirty years, but some are of much older date—one dates back as far as 1773, one 1781, and one 1802. Most of them are published weekly, but some are

\* “The North British Review,” vol. xxx. May, 1859.

issued fortnightly and some monthly. They are not newspapers, according to the popular meaning of the term "newspaper," though, for postal purposes, being registered according to the provisions of the Act of the 16 and 17 Victoria, c. 63, they are treated as newspapers; indeed, by the Act of 18 and 19 Victoria, c. 27, the term "periodical publication" is to be "construed and mean" a newspaper, as defined by former Acts: viz., "A paper containing any public news, intelligence, or occurrences published periodically." Besides these periodical publications or class journals, which are registered, for the convenience of transmission by post (being treated as newspapers), there are a great number of periodicals which are not registered for postal purposes. These comprise penny publications and other cheap papers, which have come into existence within the last few years. Though not registered as newspapers, they are transmissible by post—the book-post—on having the proper adhesive stamp attached. No enumeration is given here of these publications, the statistics which form the subject of the following pages being confined to such newspapers or "periodical publications" as are registered under the Act of the 16 and 17 Victoria, c. 63.

We here give a list of the class or representative journals to the beginning of 1860, commencing with the **NAVAL** and **MILITARY SERVICES**.

The oldest papers extant relating to these services are the *Naval and Military Gazette*, and the *United Service Gazette*, both established in 1833.

In 1853 the *Sailors' Home Journal and Naval Chronicle*, a monthly publication, appeared; and in 1857, the *Wellington Gazette* (also monthly) was established. In 1859 appeared the *Volunteer Service Gazette*. The *Army and Navy Gazette*, by W. H. Russell, came out at the beginning of the present year, but it does not come, strictly, into our list, which is made up to the end of 1859. The CIVIL SERVICE has a representative in the *Civil Service Gazette*.

The SHIPPING INTEREST is represented by the following papers: viz., *Lloyd's List*, established in 1726; the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* (daily evening paper), in 1836; the *Shipping Advertiser* (daily morning paper), 1845; *General Shipping List*, 1853; *Mitchell's Maritime Register*, 1856; *Floating Cargoes Daily List*, 1858; *Mitchell's Shipping Journal*, and the *Steam Shipping Chronicle*, 1859.

The papers which represent the COMMERCIAL and MERCANTILE interests are the *Public Ledger* (daily paper), founded in 1759; *Prince's Price Current*, 1782; the *Commercial Daily List* in 1832; the *London Commercial Record* in 1842; and the *Mercantile Register* in 1856. The forerunner of the commercial and mercantile newspapers seems to have been one with which Sir Roger L'Estrange connected himself in 1675, after the *London Gazette* had supplanted his "Public Intelligencer." It was called the "City Mercury."

AGRICULTURAL and CORN interests are represented by the *Universal Corn Reporter*, established

in 1829; the *Mark Lane Express* in 1832, and the *Magnet* in 1837.\* MINING, RAILWAY, ENGINEERING, and GAS find representatives in the *Mining Journal*, established in 1835; the *Mining Record*, in 1858; the *Railway Journal*, in 1835; the *Railway Times*, 1837; the *Railway Record*, in 1844; and the *Railway Gazette* in 1845; the *Engineer* in 1856. ARCHITECTURE and BUILDING have two journals devoted specially to their interest, in the *Builder* and *Building News*, the one established in 1843, the other in 1854. BANKING has, since 1828, possessed the *Banker's Circular*, and the STOCK EXCHANGE has got the *Shareholder*, started in 1859.

The representatives and advocates of LAW, and the organs of MEDICINE, SURGERY, and CHEMISTRY, are the *Jurist* and the *Justice of the Peace*, both founded in 1837; the *Law Times*, in 1843; the *County Courts Chronicle*, in 1846; the *Weekly Reporter*, in 1852, and the *Solicitor's Journal*, in 1857. The *Lancet*, the oldest successor of a medical paper which came out in 1686, was established in 1823; the *Medical Times and Gazette* in 1850; the *Medical Circular* in 1852; the *Association Medical Journal* in 1853, and the *Chemical News* in 1859.

The papers for INDIA and the COLONIES are thirteen in number. The oldest of them, and we believe the first of the class, the *Atlas, for India and the Colonies*, was founded in 1842, and was followed, in 1843, by *Allen's Indian Mail*. The *Home News for Australia and India* succeeded in

\* These interests are also represented by the *Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette* and the *Gardener's and Farmer's Journal*.

1847. The *Australian and New Zealand Gazette* appeared in 1850; the *Overland Mail for India* in 1855; the *Canadian News*, representing the North American Colonies and British Columbia, in 1856; the *Homeward Mail* (for India) in 1857. In 1858, three new papers of this class appeared, the *Cape and Natal News*; the *London and China Express*, and the *London and China Telegraph*. The first of these represents the South African British possessions; the second contains news from China, Japan, Singapore, and other parts east of India; and the other supplies news from England for those parts of the world. The *Australian Mail*; the *English Mail*, for circulation in Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, and New Zealand; and *Thacker's Overland News*, for India, were, we believe, all established in 1859; and so was the *Oriental Budget*, a monthly literary paper. The INSURANCE interest has representatives in the *Insurance Gazette* and the *News*; the former established in 1856, the other in 1858.

The CHURCH OF ENGLAND and the CHURCH OF ROME have each their representatives in the metropolitan newspaper press; so also have the religious sects and creeds of various denominations, and besides the different journals that come under the definition of newspapers, are a host of those which are called "periodical publications," as distinct from "newspapers." We will endeavour to classify the newspapers. First, the CHURCH OF ENGLAND representatives. In this class we find the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, established in 1838; the *English*

*Churchman*, in 1843; the *Guardian*, 1846; *Union*, 1857. These are called "High Church" papers. The *Record* (1828) is designated "Low Church." To these are to be added the *Clerical Journal*, 1853, the *Literary Churchman*, 1855, and the *National Standard*, 1856. The ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH has got the *Tablet*, founded in 1840, and the *Weekly Register* (established as the "Catholic Standard") in 1849. The following are described as of "no sect or denomination." The *Christian Cabinet*, 1855; the *Constitution*, 1856; the *British Standard*, 1857; the *British Ensign*, 1859. In the DISSENTING INTEREST, and for the "voluntary principle," are the *Patriot* and the *Nonconformist*; the one established in 1832, the other in 1841. There is also the *Christian World*, in 1859. The WESLEYANS have two weekly newspapers in London, the *Watchman* and the *Wesleyan Times*; the one founded in 1835, the other in 1849. The BAPTISTS have got the *Freeman*, established in 1855. To the UNITARIANS belongs the *Inquirer*, brought out in 1842.

The JEWS are represented by the *Jewish Chronicle*, founded in 1845. The progenitor of the religious newspapers was the "Instructor," which came out in 1808, with an announcement that its columns would be "supplied with pious reflections; suitable comments to improve the dispensations of Providence; and the whole to be conducted with an eye to our temporal, as well as spiritual welfare."\*

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. ii. p. 37, quoting an advertisement in the "Evangelical Magazine" for Sept. 1807.

The EDUCATIONAL JOURNALS are the *National Society's Monthly Paper*, 1846; the *Educational Times*, and the *English Journal of Education*, in 1847; *Papers for the Schoolmaster*, 1854; and the *Oxford, Cambridge, and Middle Class Reporter*, 1859.

Let us now take a survey of the LITERARY JOURNALS, and those representing the ARTS and SCIENCES. Mr. Andrews says the first newspaper which devoted itself to literary matters, the great-grandfather of the *Literary Gazette* and *Athenæum*, was "Mercurius Librarius, or a Faithful Account of all Books and Pamphlets, 1680;" but, query, whether *Bent's Literary Advertiser*, the *Publishers' Circular*, the *Bookseller*, and the *Oriental Budget* have not a better claim to the succession from the "Mercurius Librarius," as their ancestor, than either of the other two papers? indeed, we doubt whether the *Literary Gazette* or the *Athenæum* would be ready to acknowledge ancestorship in old "Mercurius Librarius," if it were a mere catalogue or "Faithful Account of Books and Pamphlets." "This Mercury," says Mr. Andrews, "thus announced his mission: 'All Booksellers that approve of the design of publishing this catalogue weekly, or once in fourteen days at least, are desired to send in to one of the undertakers, any book, pamphlet, or sheet they would have in it, so soon as published, that they may be inserted in order as they come out; their books shall be delivered them back again upon demand. To show they design the public advantage of the trade, they will expect but 6d.

for inserting any book, nor but 12*d.* for any other advertisement relating to the trade, unless it be excessive long.”\*

*Bent's Literary Advertiser* in 1802, the *Literary Gazette* in 1817, and the *Athenæum* in 1828, were followed, in 1837, by the *Publishers' Circular*; by the *Critic* in 1843, and by *Notes and Queries* in 1849. The ancestor of the latter and first of its race seems to have been the “Athenian Gazette,” afterwards called the “Athenian Mercury,” in 1689. The *Literary Gazette*, the *Athenæum*, the *Publishers' Circular*, and the *Critic*, may perhaps claim relationship to two literary papers which made their appearance in 1691; one entitled “*Mercurius Eruditorum*, or News from the Learned World;” the other, the “History of Learning, or an Abstract of several Books lately published, as well Abroad as at Home.” The *Leader* came out in 1850; its title is now the *Leader and Saturday Analyst*. This was followed, in 1855, by the *Saturday Review*. The *Bookseller* made its appearance in 1858, and the *Oriental Budget* in 1859.† The *Stationer* also appeared in that year. These three are monthly publications. The *Stationer* is “a medium of trade communication between stationers, papermakers, printers,” &c., and contains newspaper and other notices. The *Oriental Budget*, since its first issue in December, 1859, has

\* “History of British Journalism,” vol. i. p. 72.

† These two papers may perhaps also put in a claim to the succession from “*Mercurius Eruditorum*” and the “Abstract of Books lately published as well Abroad as at Home;” so also may *Bent's Literary Advertiser* prefer a claim as coming from the “Abstract” pedigree.

been twice enlarged; it now contains thirty-six pages, and circulates, we believe, throughout the United Kingdom, as well as in India and the Colonies.

We had almost forgotten *Punch*; indeed, we hardly know in what list to place him, for he stands "alone in his glory,"—out and apart from all the rest. He is of no tribe; he is *sui generis*; yet, as he has *registered* himself on the muster-roll of the newspaper army, and fights vigorously—when he *does* fight—under the British press banner, we must not leave him out—indeed, he is now one of the institutions of the country. He cannot be properly called a "class paper," for he is of no class, sect, or party. He is, as some of the newspapers proper say of themselves, "OPEN TO ALL, INFLUENCED BY NONE." He may, however, come under the definition of a "representative journal," for he represents all interests, advocates all rights, and denounces all wrongs; "shoots folly as it flies," and does good service to the State in every department. But we must not let our eulogistic warmth divert us entirely from the statistical business we have in hand. As we have recorded the ages of the other newspapers, we must not forget to register *Punch's* age. He came into the world on the 17th July, 1841. Let that day—*Punch's* birthday—be henceforth "noted in the calendar." Let it be recorded in *Punch's Almanack*, and in all the almanacks, in conspicuous letters, thus:—

**Birthday of the Immortal Punch!**

XVII. JULY, ANNO DOMINI MDCCCXLI.

*Punch*, it will be seen, is yet quite young—only just now entering into his twentieth year. People sometimes, in their “flowing cups,” call him *old PUNCH*; and he looks old, for he has “an old head on young shoulders.” We cannot trace his pedigree; indeed, he owns no ancestral line. His legitimacy cannot be questioned; yet it seems he is *filius nullius*; nor does he acknowledge any progenitor; else we might point as his ancestor to the “Merry Mercury,” which flourished in the reign of William III. The descendants, if any, of the “Merry Mercury” of 1700, *Punch* disowns, as having any affinity or relationship to. He “*has* no brother, is *like* no brother.” He wields his *bâton* alone, supremely, and triumphantly.

We have now to speak of ARTS, SCIENCES, and PHOTOGRAPHY. All these have representatives in the following papers: *Journal of the Society of Arts*, and the *Photographic Journal*—the one established in 1852, the other in 1853; the *Mechanic's Magazine* and the *Photographic News*, both in 1858. The COURT AND FASHIONABLE WORLD are taken care of by the *Court Journal* and *Court Circular*—the first established in 1829, the other in 1856. MUSIC and THEATRICALS have four papers devoted to their service: the *Musical World* and the *Musical Times*—the one established in 1825, the other in 1844; *L'Entr'acte* (daily), and the *London Daily Guide* (weekly), both brought out in 1859.

To GARDENING and FARMING the services of four papers are devoted—the *Gardener's Chronicle* and

*Agricultural Gazette*, founded in 1841; the *Gardener's and Farmer's Journal*, 1845; the *Cottage Gardener and Country Gentleman*, 1848; and *Glenny's Gardener's Gazette*, a monthly paper, in 1850.

And now we come to the last of the class of representative papers, of which the staple matter is the TURF, SPORTING, and the RING. The year 1683 produced the first sporting paper, the *Bell's Life in London* of the present day. It was called the "Jockey's Intelligencer." The interests of racing, sporting, and prize-fighting are supported by the following papers: the *Racing Calendar*, founded in 1773; *Bell's Life in London*, in 1820; the *Sunday Times*, in 1822; the *Era*, 1838; the *Racing Times*, 1851; *Field*, 1853; the *Eclipse*, 1857; the *Land*, established in 1858 as the "Review," the *Weekly Sportsman*, the *Sporting Life*, and the *Sporting Telegraph*, all in 1859.

We have shown that the great mass of new journals now existing throughout the kingdom sprang into existence upon the abolition of the stamp duty as a newspaper impost, in 1855. Amongst them were two ILLUSTRATED JOURNALS—the *Illustrated Times* and the *Illustrated News of the World*. The first of these appeared in June, 1855; the other in 1858. At the head of the illustrated family is the *Illustrated London News*, which is "an older,"—ought we to say "a better soldier?" Nay, it would not be our province to do so, even if comparisons were *not* "odorous;" but

this we may say, that the *Illustrated London News* is, in more senses than one, a paper of the giant tribe. Its progenitor we have not succeeded in tracing, though we have gone back in our researches as far as the middle of the seventeenth century. At that period we find a "Mercurius Civicus: London Intelligencer;" which Mr. Andrews says "appeared in 1643, and contained a variety of woodcuts. No. 3, May 28, in reporting a vote of Parliament relating to the Queen, favours the public with a portrait of her Majesty; and No. 152, April 30th, 1646, has two blurred and blotted woodcut portraits, respectively headed 'Charles Rex,' and 'Sir Thomas Fairfax.'" "Two blurred and blotted woodcut portraits!" The *Illustrated London News* of 1842 would not own, as its prototype, such an illustrated paper as this "Civic Mercury" of 1643; nor would the younger papers of the present day—the *Illustrated Times*, or the *Illustrated News of the World*—acknowledge it as an ancestor of theirs; neither would the *Lady's Newspaper*—"an illustrated paper especially devoted to ladies"—own it as a great-grandfather on either side, maternal or paternal. That respectable paper, now in its fourteenth year—its birth being in January, 1847—besides other illustrations, "contains," we are told in one of its announcements, "illustrations of the fashions, directly obtained from the fountain-head of that capital of the world's fashion, Paris." It contains also, so we are told in a publication of undoubted authority, to which we are indebted for many of our facts

and dates,\* “directions for making and working those nameless elegances in collars, cuffs, mantles, purses, ottomans, &c., in the manufacturing of which ladies display so much ingenuity, taste, and industry; with directions also for gardening, such as ladies may follow.” A few years ago this *Lady* newspaper gave its hand to an illustrated gentleman journal, called the *Pictorial Times*. The two papers were then “joined together,” and the twain became one; the lady not, as in ordinary cases, taking the gentleman’s name and title, and merging her own in his, but retaining her own, and placing it as the first and most distinguished of the two, adding her liege lord’s name in conjunction with her own—thus, *Lady’s Newspaper and Pictorial Times*. And now, let us inform our readers, that under this conjunctive title the two papers are flourishing jointly together; and giving to the *Lady* world, besides other illustrations, “portraits of distinguished men and women, views of remarkable edifices or places, and sketches of passing events, whether at home or abroad, all from first-class artists; and may challenge comparison with those of any other publication!”

Every one knows what the general character of the *Illustrated London News* is, and what are the quality and number of its illustrations. The *Illustrated News of the World* has been thus spoken of: “The events of the week are illustrated by woodcuts, as are the various topographical and descriptive articles which form a part of the con-

\* Mitchell’s “Newspaper-Press Directory,” 1860.

tents of the paper—the field of the writers and artists embracing every part of the known world. A national portrait gallery of celebrated characters is connected with this journal, the portraits being all taken from authentic photographs, and beautifully executed in steel, the size of the page, by an eminent artist;”\* not “blurred and blotted wood-cut portraits,” such as the puny “*Mercurius Civicus*” of 1643 contained. The *Illustrated Times*, “though the cheapest of the illustrated papers, is not inferior to its contemporaries, either in its pictorial or literary contents.”†

\* Mitchell’s “Newspaper-Press Directory,” 1860, pp. 24 and 130.

† *Ibid.* p. 24.

## CHAPTER IV.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT PAPERS—CITY OF LONDON—SHOREDITCH—  
 FINSBURY—TOWER HAMLETS—CLERKENWELL—ISLINGTON—HOL-  
 BORN—BLOOMSBURY—ST. PANCRAS—MARYLEBONE—LAMBETH—  
 SOUTHWARK—LONDON FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS—SUBURBAN PAPERS—  
 CHELSEA—HAMMERSMITH—EDGEWARE—HARROW—STAINES—CLAP-  
 HAM—CROYDON—KINGSTON—STRATFORD—GREENWICH—SUMMARY  
 OF LONDON NEWSPAPERS—SUMMARY OF LONDON NEWSPAPER  
 POLITICS.

MR. ANDREWS, alluding to the revolution which the repeal of the newspaper stamp duty had brought about in the press world—particularly in reference to the metropolitan district papers—makes the following remarks: “The most singular, and perhaps unexpected result, was the starting, all over London, of a local or district press. This result is, in our opinion, not the least valuable which has attended the abolition of the duty. The immense and rapid growth of the metropolis precludes the possibility of the general newspapers noticing and correcting special and merely local grievances, which, nevertheless, may threaten the lives and happiness of thousands. Cases of petty tyranny by parochial authorities; of excess or neglect of duty; of peculation or reckless extravagance; of nuisances unprevented, offences unprosecuted, and wants unsupplied, which it is their duty to attend to, are constantly occurring; but even if the *Times* could spare space to make it known

every time the parish engine was out of order, or the parish pump wanted repair, it could not afford time or room to keep constantly repeating the complaint till the matters were set to rights. There is always a danger of such small district papers falling into personalities, if not scandal; but we admit the new local press took a higher ground at once, and has well maintained it. We have before us a collection of these local prints, and we must confess that, in the details of the 'getting up,' as regards typography and quality of paper, most of these excel their more general contemporaries of the same, or a little higher, price. With the very existence of many of these we dare say most of our readers are unacquainted, yet they circulate by thousands in their respective districts.\* The majority of them are very creditable publications; some go beyond the circle of parish news and politics, and give the general foreign and domestic intelligence of the week, and all of them are crowded with the advertisements of local tradesmen. . . . These are admitted at a low scale of charges, and afford the tradesmen of their districts a medium for making known their addresses and prices, such as no other papers could offer them"†

The "British Quarterly Review" speaks thus of the metropolitan district journals: "No less significant of the impulse given to the extension of newspapers by the removal of restrictive imposts

\* In one district, Clerkenwell, they circulate by tens of thousands.

† "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 342.

are certain new journals of a representative character which have started up latterly in different parts of the metropolis, which are every day increasing in number, and of the existence of which the great mass of newspaper readers are entirely ignorant. From the nature of their contents, and the bounded objects to which they are addressed, it is evident that these journals are not designed for general circulation, but that they have been devised for the sole purpose of representing local interests, and furnishing a medium for local advertisements. They possess, nevertheless, all the characteristics of a newspaper whose range of intelligence is limited to its own immediate district, and thus reflecting the action of law and authority and of social progress within their province—matters too small for the recognition of the higher journals—they become the vehicles of much useful information which is not to be got elsewhere, and which is important in the locality for whose benefit it has been collected. These journals may be considered as the natural product of free municipal institutions, under the *régime* of a press newly emancipated from fiscal restraints. They are at once the exponents and overseers of our whole parochial system, and offer, by the publicity which they give to all incidents occurring upon their rounds, the best possible popular protection against abuses and shortcomings. They circulate, so far as the newsmen are engaged in the sale of them, only in their own quarters, and whoever is curious to procure them must seek for them there. Their

titles are invariably drawn from their localities." After giving two separate lists—one, of the papers published at a penny, and the other of those published at a halfpenny, which latter the reviewer observes "are quite equal to the former in all essential particulars of size and matter, but transcending them in cheapness"—the review article proceeds thus: "The contents of both the penny and halfpenny journals are of much the same kind, and may be inferred from our general description of the whole class. They consist, for the most part, of elaborate reports of vestry meetings and of the doings of Boards of Guardians. Numerous reports of lectures delivered in various parts of the district, accounts of concerts and other entertainments, and an occasional sprinkling of miscellaneous local news. In a few instances, they ascend to leading articles and critical reviews; sometimes they even glance at foreign politics; and in almost all cases the proceedings of the parish authorities, the guardians, and the magistrates, are submitted, with more or less effect, to the editorial scrutiny. With one exception, they are published in the form of a single sheet of the usual size of a morning paper. The typography is remarkably good, which may perhaps be accounted for by the fact that most of them are the speculations of printers, and we should do them an injustice if we did not add that, although their literary pretensions are not of a high order, they accomplish the end for which they are intended with more careful attention to details, and with greater

variety of resources, than might be anticipated from their price."

Up to January, 1860, there were seventeen of these penny and halfpenny papers established in the City of London and in the metropolitan boroughs and districts—being nine in number, and embracing the several divisions of the metropolis; the City of London; Shoreditch district, including the parliamentary borough of Finsbury and the Tower Hamlets; Clerkenwell district; Islington district; Holborn district; Bloomsbury district; St. Pancras district; Marylebone district; the South London district, including the parliamentary boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.\*

First and foremost of these penny metropolitan district papers is the *City Press*—the CITY OF LONDON paper; its single sheet of eight pages, containing forty-eight columns, is nearly the size of the *Times*. It was founded in July, 1857. The average number of its advertisements exceeds by about fifty those of the average number in the *Times* after that journal had been established fifty years. By a return, "drawn from accounts published by the stamp office and printed by order of the House of Commons," it appeared that on an average of the whole of the year 1838, the sale of each copy of the *Times* in that year was 11,660, and the advertisements in each number were 478. In several numbers of the *City Press* of May and June, 1860—that journal having then been established not quite three years—the average number

\* "British Quarterly Review" for April, 1859.

of advertisements was 530. The *City Press* gives a correct description of itself in these words: "It is a source of reliable information on the laws, customs, usages, rights and privileges, courts, churches, charities, clubs, parochial boards, places, and people of the City; local antiquities, literature of London, ancient City customs, transactions of educational, scientific, and literary societies, lectures and lecturers, young men's classes, &c. It contains also special reports of all meetings of the Courts of Aldermen, Common Council, and Sewers; City sessions, licensing meetings, meetings of the Guardians of the City of London Union and of the Guardians of the East and West London Union; also of the Holborn district; and all City meetings, parochial, political, commercial, social, and religious." To this full description we may add, that the *City Press* certainly contains more original and exclusive matter than any other of the metropolitan district papers. Its circulation is almost entirely through the medium of the trade. It was originally only half its present size. It "doubled" in December, 1859, and its circulation and number of advertisements—not its price—appear to have had a corresponding increase.

The NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT of London, including, we believe, the parliamentary borough of Finsbury, is represented by a local paper called the *Shoreditch Observer*. It came out on the 3rd of January, 1857, as a small halfpenny paper, containing sixteen columns, with little more than a page (four columns) of advertisements. It is now

a large sheet of twenty-eight columns, averaging about seventeen columns of advertisements. Its size has been enlarged three times, the first when it was only four months old. It was then enlarged to twenty columns. In October, 1858, its size was increased to twenty-four columns. In December, 1859, its price was raised to a penny, and the number of its columns extended to twenty-eight. We do not know the extent of its circulation, but it has all the appearance of enjoying a good one. It looks healthy and vigorous. It purports to represent the respective parishes of St. Luke, Bishopsgate, Kingsland, Hackney, Bethnal-green, and the Tower Hamlets. It is the Leviathan of the North-Eastern District; indeed, it is now, we believe, the only paper existing there, it having, it seems, swallowed up all the minnows, which swam for a year or two only.

The NORTHERN, or EAST CENTRAL—as we believe it is called in the *Postal Guide*—DISTRICT OF CLERKENWELL—a large and populous one, is represented by the *Clerkenwell News* and the *Clerkenwell Journal*. “The *Clerkenwell News*, which stands at the head of the halfpenny papers, is the largest and most ambitious of the whole collection. It is very nearly equal in size to a double *Times*, and is conducted with something more of the business air of a high-priced journal than any of its contemporaries. Its original articles appear to be temperate in style and practical in matter; its success is commensurate to its merits.”\*

\* “The British Quarterly Review” for April, 1859.

This was the first of the halfpenny papers published in London since the "halfpenny posts" and "farthing posts" of former days, "when news began to be in fashion." It appeared on the 1st of May, 1855, having anticipated the abolition of the stamp duty in June of that year. Its size was then a folio crown, being only a little larger than a quarter its present size, which is a huge sheet of four pages, with seven columns in a page. Its second enlargement was a folio demy; the next, a double crown quarto; the next, a double demy quarto; the next, its present size. At first it was a "once a week" paper, now it is published twice a week—Wednesdays and Saturdays. The double number contains fifty-six columns. The entire circulation on the two days is, we understand, upwards of 40,000! The circulation on Wednesday, May 2, 1860, was 15,000, and on the Saturday following 24,000, and this, we believe, is its average circulation. The paper is a perfect Hercules, and when twice a week it makes its appearance, the district is wrought into a state of high commotion, if not actually "frighted from its propriety." "The giant is coming," is in every one's mouth. It really must never attempt to *treble*,—to become a thrice a week or daily paper. If it should, it would be the death of the Clerkenwellers, who could not bear up against any additional excitement. As it is, the sensation which its appearances cause is kept up throughout the week. There is a little lull between Saturday and Wednesday, when (on Wednesdays) only 15,000! copies are sold; but no

sooner is Wednesday past, than Saturday is again looked forward to; and then, as the hour of publication approaches, the excitement again rages, until the full demand of 24,000 copies are issued. "The scene round the neighbourhood of the office on publishing days is like a fair." This is one description lately given to us of the excitement which this "lion" of the district causes. The entire circulation, on the two days of publication, is through newsvendors and boys. On Saturdays, 24,000 copies are frequently sold in less than half an hour, many large newsvendors taking between 2000 and 3000 papers; some of the itinerant boys sell as many as 40 quires—1040 papers. They are sold from the office at ninepence per quire, 26 to the quire, thereby realizing a profit to the vendors of more than sixteen shillings in a few hours. There are, we understand, very few little boys who sell less than 10 quires.\* The average number of advertisements in the Saturday's edition is little short of 1500, and there is a large number in the Wednesday's issue.

The *Clerkenwell Journal*, also a halfpenny paper, is published in the immediate neighbourhood. It came out in 1858, under the title of the *North London Record*, and was published in Goswell-street. It has lately removed nearer to its cotemporary, the *Clerkenwell News*. It is little more than half the size of that paper. We have not heard that it has yet created any great "sensation;" but it has an-

\* The publication of the *Clerkenwell News*, the circulation being so large, begins on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

nounced that its "recent extraordinary success has rendered a more commodious publishing office an absolute necessity."

In the immediate neighbourhood of Clerkenwell are two other halfpenny papers published weekly, in the ISLINGTON DISTRICT. These are the *Islington Gazette* and the *Islington Times*. The first appeared in 1856, the other in May, 1857. Both papers are of the same size, four pages, containing twenty-four columns. The *Islington Times*, when first brought out, was of smaller dimensions, and contained only twenty columns. In February last it was enlarged to its present size, and in reference to its future prospects it announced to its readers in May last, that it was "walking up at a good pace." It contains twelve columns of advertisements.

The HOLBORN and BLOOMSBURY DISTRICTS, comprising the parishes of St. Andrew, Holborn, St. George the Martyr, and St. Sepulchre, find representatives in the *Holborn Journal*, a halfpenny paper, which was brought out in 1857; also in the *St. Pancras and Holborn Times*, a penny journal, established in 1858; and the *News of the Week*, a penny paper, established in 1856, and circulating in the parishes of the Bloomsbury and Holborn districts, and also in several parishes in Marylebone and Westminster.

The Parliamentary BOROUGH OF MARYLEBONE, consisting of three parishes, Marylebone, Paddington, and St. Pancras, and containing a population of 400,000, seems to be fully represented by part of the metropolitan district press. It has in

its service four weekly papers, three being penny papers, and one a halfpenny. These are the *Marylebone Mercury*, the *St. Pancras Reporter*, the *Paddington News*, and the *St. Pancras News*. The first two are twin brothers, having had their birth at the same time, 1857. The others came into existence in 1859. We have said that the *Marylebone Mercury* and the *St. Pancras Reporter*, both penny papers, are twin brothers, and yet we believe the *Mercury* does not own, but repudiates, any connexion with the *Reporter*. The *Mercury* is, in fact, the leviathan of the Marylebone district. It is the borough paper, and being so, it seems to take some pains to distinguish itself from the others and to keep them at a distance by calling them the *parish* papers. The *Marylebone Mercury* has now (June, 1860) reached its 149th number. Although not quite three years old, it has been twice enlarged, and is now a broad sheet of twenty-eight columns, with thirteen columns of advertisements, and the quality of the matter it contains, and that of the paper upon which it is printed, is alike equally good.

The SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT, including the Parliamentary BOROUGHs of LAMBETH and SOUTHWARK, has its newspaper representatives in the *South London Journal* and the *South London Local Journal*, both published at fourpence each, the one established in 1834, the other (by the same proprietors) in 1855; the *South London News*, a penny paper established in 1853; the *Lambeth Observer*

in 1857; and the *South London Chronicle* in 1859, the two latter being halfpenny papers.

Let us now take a survey of the newspapers, twelve in number, in the SUBURBS of LONDON. And first in the MIDDLESEX and WESTERN and NORTH-WESTERN SUBURBS. There we find the *West London Observer* and *West Middlesex Advertiser*, both penny papers; the one established at Hammersmith, in 1855; the other at Chelsea, in 1856. We find also at Edgware, the *Edgware Chronicle*, brought out in 1859. It is published at 2*d.*, which, in these times of penny and halfpenny district papers, would perhaps seem dear to those who estimate value by size, and not quality; forgetting that its proprietor, like his predecessor, Sir Roger L'Estrange, probably "utters his news by weight, and not by measure;" and here we may say, that in the case of the *Edgware Chronicle* the weight of its matter is good. Moreover, its pages are enriched weekly by a pleasant article from a "London Correspondent," whom it calls its "own." At Harrow there is the *Harrow Gazette*, a monthly paper, "made up," it states, "principally of voluntary contributions." It was established in 1855, and is published at 2*d.* At Staines is the *West Middlesex Herald*, which came out in 1855. That also is published at 2*d.* In the SURREY SUBURBAN DISTRICT, we meet with the *Clapham Gazette*, a monthly paper, price 3*d.*, established in 1853, circulating at Clapham, and other places at a distance of several miles round. At Croydon we

have the *Croydon Chronicle*, at 1½d., established in 1855. At Kingston, the *Surrey Comet*, 2d., which was first seen in that town in 1854, continues its hebdomadal appearance regularly every Saturday morning. In the EASTERN SUBURBS (County of Essex), we find the *Stratford Times*, a penny paper. It came out in 1858. This paper, and the others we have mentioned as being published at Staines, Croydon, and Kingston, are broad sheets of twenty-eight columns. They contain a great variety of news, local and general, and are well studded with advertisements. The general news is the same in each; the plan, now so much in vogue, being adopted of making one "setting-up" serve for many papers. The "London Correspondent" article, too, is the same in each paper, each being enlivened by it, and claiming the "Correspondent" as its "own." At a first glance, the uninitiated reader, if he happened to see at Staines, in Middlesex, Croydon and Kingston, in Surrey, and Stratford, in Essex, the local newspapers there published on the same day, would perhaps be somewhat puzzled. To his excited imagination, the "London Correspondent" would seem to be gifted with the faculty of ubiquity, making his appearance in different counties at the same time. He would seem, moreover, to be a highly-esteemed and popular "Correspondent," each paper in the several counties claiming him as its "own." Well, there would be no great harm; and if the newspaper reader happened to be a person of inquiring or reflective mind, he would soon get to the solution of

the riddle, which might at first have so much perplexed him. In the SUBURBAN DISTRICT and Parliamentary BOROUGH of GREENWICH, we meet with the *Greenwich Free Press*, which claims to be the borough paper. It was established in 1855. It is a penny paper of twenty-four columns, containing local and general news, and an article weekly from its "Own London Correspondent." In the same district, and at Woolwich also, we find the *South London Journal* and the *South London News* circulating. These we have before mentioned, under the head of metropolitan district papers.

We now come to another newspaper tribe, small in number, to which we have not before alluded—"another race of purely representative journals to which the last few years have given birth." "These," says the *British Quarterly* reviewer, "stand entirely apart from all other newspapers, and are addressed, not to the public at large, nor formally to the English public at all, but to small and exclusive circles. They may be collected under the general title of the Foreign Press of London, which began in a French weekly paper, and has gone on expanding till it now includes papers in the principal languages of the continent. There are two French journals, the *Courrier de l'Europe*, and *La Presse de Londres*, consisting of summaries of intelligence, with slender claims to originality; three German journals, the *Hermann*, edited by Professor Kinkel, the organ of the national party; the *Neue Zeit*, a democratic journal, written with

vigour and refinement; and the *Londoner Deutsche Zeitung*, a journal of news; one Italian paper, *Pensiero ed Azione*, conducted by Mazzini, with Kossuth as a contributor, the revolutionary mouth-piece of all the 'peoples;' and a useful, moderate, and copious Spanish journal, *La Peninsula Española*. All these papers have a certain circulation in England; but some of them depend chiefly on more distant readers. The French papers, for example, have a principal part of their sale in Canada, and other French colonies and settlements; the Italian paper (secretly) in Hungary, Austria, and the Italian States; and the Spanish in South America."\*

The following SUMMARY shows the number of metropolitan newspapers extant, established between the years 1665 and 1855, and the increase since. It indicates also the different prices; the letter F denoting "full price;" I, "intermediate price;" and C, "cheap papers."

|                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1665<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.    | PRICES.   |          |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                            |                     |                     |           | F.        | I.       | C.       |
| LONDON GAZETTE, founded in 1665                                                                                                                                                            | 1                   | ...                 | 1         | 1         |          |          |
| DAILY PAPERS established between<br>1665 and 1860 . . . . .                                                                                                                                | 14                  | 7                   | 21        | 8         | 3        | 10       |
| SEMI-WEEKLY PAPERS established<br>between 1760 and 1860 . . . .                                                                                                                            | 3                   | ...                 | 3         | 3         |          |          |
| WEEKLY, FORTNIGHTLY & MONTHLY<br>PAPERS, of which 125 are class<br>journals, metropolitan district<br>papers, and London foreign<br>papers, established between<br>1772 and 1860 . . . . . | 92                  | 85                  | 177       | 106       | 25       | 46       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                            | <hr/> 110           | <hr/> 92            | <hr/> 202 | <hr/> 118 | <hr/> 28 | <hr/> 56 |

\* "British Quarterly Review" for April, 1859.

We do not include in the above enumeration the suburban papers, of which it will have been seen there are twelve. We bring them in among the Home Counties papers.

The newspapers extant in London from 1665 to 1860 were established during the following periods :—From 1665 to 1800, 16; from 1800 to 1830, 17; from 1830 to 1855, 77; from 1855 to 1860, 92. Total, 202.

Of the above number (56) of cheap papers, ten were established prior to 1855, their prices having been reduced since the abolition of the stamp duty in that year. The full-priced journals in the above summary are taken at 4*d.*, 5*d.*, and 6*d.*; 4*d.* is now the highest price of the daily papers unstamped; but the old weekly journals are for the most part published at 5*d.* unstamped. Some are charged at 6*d.*, which is the average price of the class journals; though of those the prices of some are higher and some lower. Some of the weekly papers and one daily journal, the *Daily News*, have adopted an intermediate price between that of the full-priced and lower-priced papers. The intermediate price is, for the purpose of the above enumeration, taken at 3*d.* and 2½*d.*; but there are only a few published at 2½*d.*; the *Morning Chronicle* (daily paper) has lately lowered its price to 2*d.* The general price of the metropolitan district papers is 1*d.*; but, as we have shown, there are some published at ½*d.*.\*

\* The current number of the *Oriental Budget*, amongst the newspaper and literary notices, announces a new penny morning paper, to be called the *Day*. To us, who revert to the annals of the old papers,

The politics of the London journals are indicated as follows:—

|                                                             | Number of<br>Newspapers. | Libe-<br>ral. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| LONDON GAZETTE. . . . .                                     | 1                        | ...           | ...                | ...               | 1         |
| DAILY PAPERS . . . . .                                      | 21                       | 9             | 7                  | 1                 | 4         |
| SEMI-WEEKLY PAPERS . . . . .                                | 3                        | ...           | 1                  | 2                 |           |
| WEEKLY, FORTNIGHTLY, MONTHLY,<br>and other PAPERS . . . . . | 177                      | 44            | 15                 | 16                | 102       |
|                                                             | <hr/> 202                | <hr/> 53      | <hr/> 23           | <hr/> 19          | <hr/> 107 |

the title is not attractive, but we will hope it may not be ominous. The “Day” of former years took into partnership the “New Times,” but the firm was not a successful one. Let us hope that a brighter *Day* is dawning now.

## CHAPTER V.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS—NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE HOME COUNTIES AND NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES.

HAVING taken a general glance at the newspaper press extant in the United Kingdom, which had its birth in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and noticed many of the leading journals existing in London, including the class journals, the metropolitan district papers, the London foreign press, and the suburban papers, we have now left the metropolis and its suburbs to travel into the English counties and to Wales, and thence to Scotland and Ireland, and the British islands, there to take a census of the newspaper population in those parts.

“The provincial press is the canal of information which irrigates the country, and makes knowledge fruitful in the land: it is the great system of arteries which, circulating through the body politic, carries nourishment to and receives strength from the heart which is in London: it is as a hundred tributaries bringing their streams of intelligence into the source from whence springs the London press. . . . The first papers published in the provinces were not, strictly speaking, the progenitors of the provincial press—they were birds of passage, which perhaps dropped the seed as they flew across

the country, from which the country newspaper has issued; but they were in no way identified with the place at which they were published—in fact, they were not local organs, but the reports of the contending armies during the Civil Wars, issued from a travelling press just wherever the army to which they were attached might happen to halt, or whenever the head of it had occasion to communicate anything to the public. . . . . It was not until 1695 that a really local organ of information—what can be fairly considered as a country newspaper—made its appearance, and that paper was the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*,”\* which, as we have stated, is still existing, and may be considered as the progenitor of the provincial press extant.

The growth of the provincial press has never yet been shown in detail: nothing but short summaries have from time to time been given. The few dates following indicate the increase in the number of provincial newspapers in England at different periods from the year 1808. In 1809 there were 93; in 1815, 122; in 1833, 180; in 1836, 194; in 1837, 237.

We shall show in different summaries the number of newspapers extant in each of the English counties between two periods—1. From and inclusive of the establishment of the oldest newspaper extant in each classification of counties to 1855. 2. From 1855 to 1860, showing the increase since the abolition of the stamp duty. The summaries will also

\* “History of British Journalism,” vol. i. p. 269.

indicate the different prices which the provincial newspapers, as well as many of the London journals, have adopted; the letter F denoting "full-price," being prices above 3*d.*, some being 3½*d.*, some 4*d.*, and some—but only a few—5*d.*; I denoting "intermediate price," being 2½*d.* or 3*d.*; C denoting "cheap" or low-priced papers, being those issued at 1*d.*, 1½*d.*, or 2*d.*

In other summaries will be found the politics, as nearly as they can be ascertained, of the newspapers in each of the counties in the United Kingdom and British islands, and a general summary of the whole will be found in page 113. No distinction is observed between "Liberal" and "Whig," or Liberal and "Radical;" nor between "Conservative" and "Liberal Conservative" or Tory. Some—only a few—of the newspaper lists give these different designations. To one is attached the term "Chartist," as indicating the principles of the paper; to another "Democratic;" some are designated as "Tory," and some "*Old Tory*" and "*Old Whig*."

It will be seen by the summary in page 97 that the number of newspapers in London and Middlesex and in thirty-nine of the English counties—being, in fact, the whole except Rutlandshire, where no newspaper appears to have been established, and including Wales, was, to January, 1860, 768, of which 336 have been brought into existence since the abolition of the stamp duty in 1855.

The details given in subsequent pages relating

to the provincial journals show that during the period between June, 1855, and January, 1860, a great conflict had been going on silently, but not very slowly, between the young and the old newspapers, and that the young race—the eldest only four years and a half old, and some only two or three—had pressed hard upon many of their older brethren. This fact is attested by the summary in page 114. It is there shown that, besides the “cheap papers,” to the number of 323, established since the abolition of the stamp duty, 174 of the old papers, formerly published at full price have become cheap ones, making the total number within 3 of 500; and in a previous page (113) it will be seen that 161 journals—not coming down in price quite to a level with the old ones—have adopted an intermediate price. It may be stated, also, that many of the papers that still keep up the higher price publish two editions, one being a number which they call the “people’s edition,” and issue it at a penny, and the other their old full-priced edition, the circulation of which has in many instances been found to fall far short of that of the cheap edition.

We now come to the HOME COUNTIES, which comprise Essex, Herts, Kent, Surrey, and Sussex. The progenitor of the newspaper press in these counties was the *Kentish Post*, which had its birth in Canterbury in 1717, and from which the present *Kentish Gazette* (the oldest paper in these counties) descended. It consisted in former days of four folio pages, of which at least a third of the front

one was taken up with a rough woodcut and title, and the whole contained only two or three advertisements.\* In 1768 it assumed its present title. It was enlarged in 1855 to eight folio pages, containing forty-eight columns, fourteen or fifteen of which are occupied with advertisements.

Amongst the other old newspaper family in the Home Counties, published during the last century, are the following: The *Chelmsford Chronicle*, which came into existence about the year 1730; the *Sussex Advertiser*, whose birth, at Lewes, was in 1745; the *Maidstone Journal*, which made its appearance in 1786; the *Kent Herald*, which came out at Canterbury as the successor of the *Man of Kent* in 1792; and the *County Chronicle* and *Surrey Herald*, which appeared about the same time. In Hertfordshire the oldest paper extant is the *Hertford Mercury*, which appeared in 1834. Its predecessor, with which it is now united, was the *Herts County Press* of the date of 1830. The *Sussex Advertiser* now issues two editions—one on Tuesdays at 4*d.*, and one on Wednesdays, called the people's edition, at 1*d.* Its united weekly circulation is stated to be upwards of 10,000. The penny paper at Arundel—the *West Sussex Gazette*—circulates between 12,000 and 13,000 copies weekly. It is one of the young papers whose progress has been most rapid. The *Maidstone Journal* is now published twice a week, and its price has within the last year or two been reduced from 5*d.* to 2½*d.*

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. ii. p. 128.

These seven newspapers in the five home counties, with the elder members of their families, including a numerous young progeny since June, 1855, number together 76. The younger ones alone are 37 in number, and of these all except two are offsprings of the cheap press. The 76 papers comprise three in Middlesex, which we have included in our list of suburban newspapers. The other papers in Middlesex (including the metropolitan districts) are enumerated in the summary of London newspapers. In Essex the number has doubled since the abolition of the stamp duty. In Hertfordshire, where there were only two papers prior to 1855, there are now six. In Kent, and also in Surrey, the number has doubled; and in Sussex (including three at Brighton) there has been an increase of more than half.

Within the last five years (up to January, 1860) newspapers had been established in the following towns and townships in the home counties: viz., Edgware, Harrow, and Staines, in Middlesex; Braintree, Halstead, and Stratford, in Essex; Barnet, Hitchin (two), and St. Albans, in Herts; Ashford, Chatham, Deal, Folkestone, Gravesend (two), Sheerness, and Tunbridge Wells, in Kent; Farnham, in Surrey; and Eastbourne, in Sussex. In these towns no newspaper had existed prior to 1855.

We have shown that six of the newspapers extant in the home counties came into existence during the last century. From 1800 to 1830 there were 7; from 1830 to 1855, 25; from 1855

to 1860, 37; total, 76. Of these, seven are published twice a week, sixty-six weekly, and three monthly.

## NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE HOME COUNTIES.

|                             | 1716<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | PRICES.  |          |          |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                             |                     |                     |          | F.       | I.       | C.       |
| MIDDLESEX (suburban papers) | ...                 | 3                   | 3        | ...      | ...      | 3        |
| ESSEX . . . . .             | 4                   | 4                   | 8        | 4        | 1        | 3        |
| HERTS . . . . .             | 2                   | 4                   | 6        | 2        | ...      | 4        |
| KENT . . . . .              | 16                  | 15                  | 31       | 7        | 8        | 16       |
| SURREY . . . . .            | 7                   | 6                   | 13       | 6        | 1        | 6        |
| SUSSEX . . . . .            | 10                  | 6                   | 16       | 6        | ...      | 10       |
|                             | <hr/> 39            | <hr/> 37            | <hr/> 76 | <hr/> 25 | <hr/> 10 | <hr/> 41 |

In the above summary of 41 “cheap papers” are included five journals which, having been established some years prior to the abolition of the stamp duty in 1855, had existed at full prices until the penny papers sprang up. It should be mentioned that several of the full-priced papers in each of the above counties publish two editions, one being a cheap edition; but we do not include the latter in the above enumeration of “cheap papers.”

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS OF THE HOME COUNTIES.

|                     | Number of<br>Newspapers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.  |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| MIDDLESEX . . . . . | 3                        | ...      | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
| ESSEX . . . . .     | 8                        | 2        | 2                  | ...               | 4        |
| HERTS . . . . .     | 6                        | 1        | 1                  | ...               | 4        |
| KENT . . . . .      | 31                       | 13       | 6                  | 4                 | 8        |
| SURREY . . . . .    | 13                       | 6        | 1                  | 1                 | 5        |
| SUSSEX . . . . .    | 16                       | 7        | 4                  | 1                 | 4        |
|                     | <hr/> 76                 | <hr/> 29 | <hr/> 15           | <hr/> 6           | <hr/> 26 |

Travelling from the home counties into those comprising the NORFOLK CIRCUIT—Bedfordshire,

Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Suffolk, and Norfolk—we find, at Norwich, the *Norwich Mercury* published twice a week at twopence. It is, in regard to age, at the head of the newspaper family in the Norfolk Circuit counties. Its birth was in 1720; it had one or two predecessors, the first of which was the “Norwich Postman,” of small quarto size, issued in 1706. This seems to have been the second provincial newspaper established in England, the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* being the first following the *London Gazette*. The “Norwich Postman” was the paper of which the price was stated—“Charge, a penny; but a halfpenny not refused.” This was prior to the newspaper stamp duty in 1712. In 1714, two years after the duty had been imposed, three farthings was the charge for one of the Norwich newspapers; and a few years afterwards one of the Norwich publishers raised his price to a penny, stating that he could not any longer afford to sell his paper for less, and hoping that none of his customers would think it dear at that price, “since they should always have the first intelligence, besides other diversions.” The other existing papers which had their birth in the Norfolk circuit counties during the last century are the *Ipswich Journal*, in 1739; the *Cambridge Chronicle*, 1748; the *Norfolk Chronicle*, at Norwich, 1761; the *Bury and Norwich Post*, at Bury St. Edmunds, 1782. With this paper the *Suffolk Herald* was incorporated in 1850. In Buckinghamshire the *Bucks Herald*, at Aylesbury—the oldest

paper extant in the county—does not date further back than 1832. At Bedford, the *Bedfordshire Mercury*, which appeared in 1837, is the oldest of the Bedfordshire newspaper family.\* Huntingdonshire, we believe, had no newspaper until 1855; in that year the *St. Neots Chronicle* came out as a cheap paper (three-halfpence).

In these counties of the Norfolk circuit the newspaper family has increased by twenty-one. Up to 1855 the number, including the five venerable journals we have mentioned of the last century, did not exceed twenty-one. The total number now is forty-two. In Bedfordshire there are now four papers; prior to 1855 there were only two. In Buckinghamshire the increase since 1855 has been two. Cambridgeshire has doubled its number since the abolition of the stamp duty; in that county there are now eight papers. In Suffolk the number has increased from five to eleven; in Norfolk from five to nine. The twenty-one papers which sprang into existence between June, 1855, and January, 1860, are all from the cheap press. Fourteen of them have been established in towns where no newspaper had previously existed: viz., Dunstable and Luton, in Bedfordshire; Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire (two); Ely and Newmarket, in Cambridgeshire; Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neots, in Huntingdonshire, in which county there was no newspaper prior to 1855; Bec-

\* One of the young Bedford family, the *Bedfordshire Independent*, which came out in 1857, is now "incorporated" with the *Bedford Times*, of which two editions weekly are published.

cles, Halesworth, Sudbury (two), and Woodbridge, in Suffolk; Dereham and Yarmouth, in Norfolk.

The newspapers now existing in the Norfolk circuit counties were founded between the years 1719 and 1860. From 1719 to 1800, five were established; from 1800 to 1830, two; from 1830 to 1855, fourteen; from 1855 to 1860, twenty-one; total, forty-two; of which four are published twice a week, thirty-six weekly, and two monthly.

#### NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES.

|                        | 1719<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | PRICES.  |         |          |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
|                        |                     |                     |          | F.       | I.      | C.       |
| BEDFORDSHIRE . . . .   | 2                   | 2                   | 4        | ...      | 2       | 2        |
| BUCKINGHAMSHIRE . . .  | 5                   | 2                   | 7        | 1        | 1       | 5        |
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE . . . . | 4                   | 4                   | 8        | 2        | ...     | 6        |
| HUNTINGDONSHIRE . . .  | ...                 | 3                   | 3        | ...      | ...     | 3        |
| SUFFOLK . . . . .      | 5                   | 6                   | 11       | 4        | 2       | 5        |
| NORFOLK . . . . .      | 5                   | 4                   | 9        | 3        | ...     | 6        |
|                        | <hr/> 21            | <hr/> 21            | <hr/> 42 | <hr/> 10 | <hr/> 5 | <hr/> 27 |

The "cheap papers" enumerated above (27 in number) include six of the old journals in the Norfolk circuit counties, which had been formerly published at full prices. Among them are the old *Norwich Mercury* of 1720, and several in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Cambridgeshire, established in 1845, 1847, and 1848.

#### NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN THE NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES.

|                      | No. of News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter. |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| BEDFORDSHIRE . . . . | 4                       | 3        | 1                  |                   |         |
| BUCKINGHAMSHIRE . .  | 7                       | 5        | 1                  | ...               | 1       |
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE . . . | 8                       | 4        | 2                  | ...               | 2       |
| HUNTINGDONSHIRE . .  | 3                       | 2        | ...                | 1                 | ...     |
| SUFFOLK . . . . .    | 11                      | 5        | 1                  | 3                 | 2       |
| NORFOLK . . . . .    | 9                       | 3        | 3                  | ...               | 3       |
|                      | <hr/> 42                | <hr/> 22 | <hr/> 8            | <hr/> 4           | <hr/> 8 |

## CHAPTER VI.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS CONTINUED — WESTERN COUNTIES — OXFORD  
CIRCUIT COUNTIES—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

WE have now arrived amidst a numerous newspaper press family, old, middle-aged, and young, numbering together eighty-four, in the WESTERN COUNTIES — Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Somersetshire. Of these, the old ones, that came into existence in the eighteenth century, are ten in number. The oldest of all, the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, carries a great weight of years upon its shoulders, having had its birth in 1720. Its ancestor, in 1715, was the “Salisbury Postman;” the publisher of which, in his first number, made the following announcement to the public: “This paper contains an abstract of the most material occurrences of the whole week, foreign and domestick, and will be continued every post, provided a sufficient number will subscribe for its encouragement. It shall be always printed on a sheet and a half, and on a good paper; but this, containing the whole week’s news, can’t be afforded under twopence.” Twopence included the stamp duty, which had been imposed upon newspapers about three years previously. The next of the old newspaper family in the western counties is the *Western Flying Post*, at

Yeovil, in Somersetshire. This paper came into the world more than a century and a quarter ago, its birth being in 1736. At that time it took the name of the "Sherborne Mercury," but cast it off for its present title, under which it has been *Flying*—we hope flourishing also—throughout the West of England for many years. Next in chronological order come two of the Bath papers—the *Bath Journal* and the *Bath Chronicle*—the first of which sprang into existence in 1742, the other appeared in 1757. The next paper in the city of Bath is the *Bath Herald*; but that did not make its appearance until many years after other papers in the western counties had been brought out. Those at Exeter made their *début* in 1763 and 1789—the one being the *Exeter Flying Post*, the other the *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette*. In 1764, the *Sherborne Journal*, at Sherborne, in Dorsetshire, appeared. The *Hampshire Chronicle*, at Winchester, and the *Hampshire Telegraph*, at Portsmouth, made their obeisance respectively in 1772 and 1798. In Cornwall, at Truro, the *Royal Cornwall Gazette* came out in 1801.

Of the total family number—eighty-four—thirty-five are the younger branches; the eldest not more than five years old, the youngest scarcely a year. They are all of the cheap press, including a daily paper at Plymouth, which made its appearance at the beginning of the present year. In Cornwall, since 1855, the number has increased from three to five; in Devonshire the increase has been from sixteen to twenty-five; in Dorsetshire the increase

has been in the proportion of half; in Hampshire the number has increased from eight to fourteen; in Wiltshire from six to nine; in Somersetshire the increase has been nearly double—viz., from twelve to twenty-three.

The young families of the western counties have established themselves in the following places where none had existed prior to 1855. Falmouth, in Cornwall; Bideford, Exmouth, Sidmouth (two), Tavistock, and Tiverton, in Devonshire; Bridport, in Dorsetshire; Aldershot, Andover, Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Lymington, in Hampshire; Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight; Marlborough and Warminster, in Wiltshire; Frome (two), Langport, and Crewkerne, in Somersetshire. Crewkerne (a small town on the verge of Dorset and Devon) affords a remarkable instance of rapid growth in one of the young newspaper family. Its birth was on the 10th of March, 1857. Its appearance (it being the first penny paper in the district) was hailed with very pleasurable feelings; a thousand impressions were at once circulated; that number was very soon increased, with a proportionate increase in the number of its advertisements; and in the course of a few months it was found necessary to enlarge the size of its sheet (technically called a news medium), and the number of its columns. This was done, with an increase of a halfpenny in its price. Its circulation went on increasing, until, in the short period of two years and a half, it had reached to a sale of 4500 copies weekly; and now (in June, 1860, very

little more than three years from the date of its birth), it has attained to the large circulation of 5000, with about 120 advertisements weekly.\* This rapid progress is the more remarkable as the district is not a manufacturing one, and there are no fewer than five young papers surrounding it, four of which have made their appearance within the last few months.

The 84 newspapers extant in the western counties were established during the following periods: From 1719 to 1800, 10; from 1800 to 1830, 12; from 1830 to 1855, 27; from 1855 to 1860, 35; total, 84; of which one is a daily paper, one is published twice a week, seventy-eight are weekly papers, three are fortnightly, and one is monthly.

NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE WESTERN COUNTIES.

|                         | 1719<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total. | PRICES. |       |       |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
|                         |                     |                     |        | F.      | I.    | C.    |
| CORNWALL . . . . .      | 3                   | 2                   | 5      | 2       | 1     | 2     |
| DEVONSHIRE . . . . .    | 16                  | 9                   | 25     | 5       | 4     | 16    |
| DORSETSHIRE . . . . .   | 4                   | 4                   | 8      | 3       | 2     | 3     |
| HAMPSHIRE . . . . .     | 8                   | 6                   | 14     | 2       | 4     | 8     |
| WILTSHIRE . . . . .     | 6                   | 3                   | 9      | 4       | ...   | 5     |
| SOMERSETSHIRE . . . . . | 12                  | 11                  | 23     | 9       | 3     | 11    |
|                         | <hr/>               | <hr/>               | <hr/>  | <hr/>   | <hr/> | <hr/> |
|                         | 49                  | 35                  | 84     | 25      | 14    | 45    |

The 45 "cheap papers" enumerated above comprise 13 which were established prior to 1855, including one at Barnstaple in 1832, formerly a full-priced publication, now become a penny paper.

It will be seen by the following summary that in the western counties—particularly Somersetshire—the number of Conservative papers preponderates over those of any other county in England.

\* This paper is *Pulman's Weekly News and Advertiser*.

|                   | No. of News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter. |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| CORNWALL . . . .  | 5                       | 3        | 1                  | ...               | 1       |
| DEVONSHIRE . . .  | 25                      | 9        | 4                  | 3                 | 9       |
| DORSETSHIRE . . . | 8                       | 3        | 2                  | 2                 | 1       |
| HAMPSHIRE . . .   | 14                      | 4        | 3                  | 1                 | 6       |
| WILTSHIRE . . .   | 9                       | 2        | 2                  | ...               | 5       |
| SOMERSETSHIRE . . | 23                      | 6        | 8                  | 2                 | 7       |
|                   | —                       | —        | —                  | —                 | —       |
|                   | 84                      | 27       | 20                 | 8                 | 29      |

Passing from the western counties to those in the OXFORD CIRCUIT, we come to the newspaper family established in Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire; they number together 86. The aged among them, having made their appearance in the last century, are twelve in number. The oldest of all is the *Worcester Journal* (Berrow's), which first saw the light at Worcester in 1709, three years before the stamp duty was imposed in the reign of Queen Anne. The *Worcester Herald* did not make its appearance until eighty-five years afterwards. Next to the *Worcester Journal* in these counties was the *Gloucester Journal*, which came out in 1720. It is the senior and leading paper of the county and city of Gloucester; its projector and original proprietor was Robert Raikes, who in 1727 was proceeded against by the House of Commons for publishing its proceedings. At Bristol the old papers are the *Bristol Gazette*, the *Bristol Mirror*, and the *Bristol Mercury*, their respective births being in 1767, 1773, and 1790. In Berkshire we have the *Reading Mercury*, which made its appearance in 1723. In the adjoining county, Oxford gave birth in the same year to the *Oxford*

*Journal*. At Shrewsbury, in Shropshire, the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* and *Eddowe's Shrewsbury Journal* made their appearance at the latter end of the last century—the one in 1772, the other in 1774. In Staffordshire the *Wolverhampton Chronicle* at Wolverhampton, in 1789, and the *Staffordshire Advertiser* at Stafford, in 1795, appeared. In Monmouthshire and in Herefordshire the newspapers extant are of comparatively modern date, the oldest being the *Monmouthshire Merlin*, which made its appearance at Newport in 1829; and the *Hereford Times*, which came out at Hereford in 1832.

The 86 papers in these eight counties comprise 35 of the young family that came into existence on the abolition of the stamp duty in 1855. They are all, except two, of the cheap press, including a daily penny paper at Bristol. The increase within the last five years has been, in Berkshire, double; in Oxfordshire, a third; in Worcestershire, half; in Staffordshire, from 6 to 15; in Shropshire, 2; in Herefordshire and Monmouthshire, double; in Gloucestershire, from 15 to 24.

Of the old papers now existing in these counties, 12 were established between 1708 and 1800; from 1800 to 1830, 6; from 1830 to 1855, 33; from 1855 to 1860, 35; total, 86. Of these, which are all weekly papers, except four published monthly, 19 have been established in sixteen towns where no newspaper had previously existed: viz., Farringdon, Newbury, and Wallingford, in Berkshire; Thame, in Oxfordshire; Dudley and Malvern, in

Worcestershire; Newcastle under Lyne, Uttoxeter, Walsall (two), and Willenhall, in Staffordshire; Ross, in Herefordshire (two); Chepstow, Pontypool, and Usk, in Monmouthshire; Moreton in Marsh and Tewkesbury (two), in Gloucestershire.

NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES.

|                           | 1708<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | PRICES.  |         |          |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
|                           |                     |                     |          | F.       | L.      | C.       |
| BERKSHIRE . . . . .       | 3                   | 3                   | 6        | 3        | ...     | 3        |
| OXFORDSHIRE . . . . .     | 9                   | 3                   | 12       | 4        | ...     | 8        |
| WORCESTERSHIRE . . . . .  | 4                   | 2                   | 6        | 3        | ...     | 3        |
| STAFFORDSHIRE . . . . .   | 6                   | 9                   | 15       | 3        | 3       | 9        |
| SHROPSHIRE . . . . .      | 7                   | 2                   | 9        | 2        | 3       | 4        |
| HEREFORDSHIRE . . . . .   | 3                   | 3                   | 6        | 2        | ...     | 4        |
| MONMOUTHSHIRE . . . . .   | 4                   | 4                   | 8        | 3        | ...     | 5        |
| GLOUCESTERSHIRE . . . . . | 15                  | 9                   | 24       | 11       | 2       | 11       |
|                           | <hr/> 51            | <hr/> 35            | <hr/> 86 | <hr/> 31 | <hr/> 8 | <hr/> 47 |

Of the 47 cheap papers in the Oxford circuit counties, 15 had been established prior to 1855, and had reduced their prices, including one in Shropshire established in 1848, and one in Oxfordshire established in 1849.

NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN THE OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES.

|                           | No. of News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.  |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| BERKSHIRE . . . . .       | 6                       | 3        | 1                  | 1                 | 1        |
| OXFORDSHIRE . . . . .     | 12                      | 5        | 3                  | 1                 | 3        |
| WORCESTERSHIRE . . . . .  | 6                       | 1        | 1                  | 1                 | 3        |
| STAFFORDSHIRE . . . . .   | 15                      | 7        | 1                  | 4                 | 3        |
| SHROPSHIRE . . . . .      | 9                       | 2        | 3                  | 1                 | 3        |
| HEREFORDSHIRE . . . . .   | 6                       | 2        | 1                  | ...               | 3        |
| MONMOUTHSHIRE . . . . .   | 8                       | 2        | 1                  | 1                 | 4        |
| GLOUCESTERSHIRE . . . . . | 24                      | 10       | 6                  | 1                 | 7        |
|                           | <hr/> 86                | <hr/> 32 | <hr/> 17           | <hr/> 10          | <hr/> 27 |

We have now got into the MIDLAND COUNTIES. There is, we find, only one paper extant in each of

those counties, which made its appearance in the eighteenth century, except Warwickshire, where there are two—*Aris's Birmingham Gazette* and the *Coventry Standard*, both of the date of 1741; the latter, a huge sheet of eight columns in a page (four pages), issues two editions—one at three-pence-halfpenny, the other at one penny. The births of the other papers in the midland counties bear the respective dates of 1695, 1710, 1720, 1732, and 1753. The *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* is the progenitor of the papers in these counties, and is, in fact, as we have stated, the oldest newspaper in the United Kingdom next to the *London Gazette*. Its birth was at Stamford, in Lincolnshire, in the reign of William III., 1695, from which time to the present it has appeared weekly without intermission. It is one of the full-priced journals, and has a large circulation throughout the midland counties; indeed, we believe it takes the lead. We have no record showing the price at which it was originally published; perhaps it was one of the "Halfpenny or Farthing Posts" of its early days; or it might have been a penny paper, for a penny was charged, or attempted to be charged, in those days, though some of the publishers made a sort of apology for charging a penny, which at that time—there being then no stamp duty—was considered in some quarters rather high. Some publishers, to attract customers, gave them the option of paying a penny or a halfpenny; others "hoped that their newspaper would not be considered dear at a penny,"

as they promised “good paper and type and the earliest intelligence,” “besides”—in the case of the Norwich publisher—“other diversions.” The *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* of the present day is a colossal sheet of eight pages, with seven columns in a page (making fifty-six), with twenty-two columns of advertisements. The *Nottingham Journal* made its appearance in 1710, the *Northampton Mercury* in 1720, the *Derby Mercury* in 1732, and the *Leicester Journal* in 1753. (*Query*—Is this the *Leicester Journal*, whose ancestor of the same name, in 1750, was so puzzled to fill its columns that it had recourse to the Bible to help it out?) The paper, it seems, was at that time printed in London, and sent down to Leicester for publication. The *Leicester Journal* of the present day is a broad sheet of forty-eight columns, crowded with news, local and general, and containing eighteen columns of advertisements. Mr. Andrews says: “In 1752 the editor of the *Leicester Journal* was so embarrassed by the want of matter, that he commenced reprinting the Bible verbatim, and got as far as the tenth chapter of Exodus before things temporal furnished him with sufficient matter to fill up his journal. Many of these papers (and among them the one we have just named) were sent up to London to be printed, there being no press in the town which they represented; so that, considering that the post took, for example, two days to travel from Leicester to London, and two days to return, and the printing must have occupied a day more, the news must have been

nearly a week old when it came out.”\* In the present day we have suburban and provincial newspapers manufactured in shoals. The matter, save the local news, is got together, printed, and stereotyped in a few hours, and in a few hours afterwards the papers are to be seen in most of the metropolitan suburbs, townships, and villages, and in many of the provincial towns throughout the kingdom.

The newspaper family in the six Midland Counties number together 78. Seventeen are natives of Derbyshire, 12 belong to Nottinghamshire, 17 are Lincolnshire, 10 Leicestershire, 16 Warwickshire, and 6 Northamptonshire. In addition to eight young papers of the cheap press in Lincolnshire, eight of the middle-aged ones—one at Boston, now in its fifty-seventh year—have become cheap papers, publishing at 1*d.* and 1½*d.*—in fact, the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* is the only full-priced paper in the county of Lincoln. In Derbyshire and in Nottinghamshire, the increase in the number of newspapers extant since 1855 has been more than doubled. In Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Warwickshire it has nearly doubled; in Northamptonshire the number has increased by half. From 1695 to 1800 (105 years), only six of the papers now existing in the Midland Counties were published. Of the other papers extant, 9 were established between 1800 and 1830, 27 between 1830 and 1855, and 35 between 1855 and 1860. These 35 are all offsprings of the cheap press,

\* “History of British Journalism,” vol. i. p. 273.

except one, a Conservative paper, established at Leicester in 1857. They are published weekly, with the exception of four, two being daily papers—one at Birmingham, established in 1857, and one at Nottingham, recently published. There is one paper published fortnightly and one monthly. Of those which have come into existence in the Midland Counties since the abolition of the stamp duty, 12 have established themselves in the following towns, where no newspaper had before existed: viz., Glossop (two) and Wirksworth, in Derbyshire; Mansfield, Newark, and Retford, in Nottinghamshire; Gainsborough and Market Rasen, in Lincolnshire; Hinckley and Loughborough, in Leicestershire; Peterborough and Wellington, in Northamptonshire.

## NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

|                          | 1694<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | PRICES.  |         |          |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
|                          |                     |                     |          | F.       | l.      | s.       |
| DERBYSHIRE . . . . .     | 11                  | 6                   | 17       | 5        | 1       | 11       |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE . . . .  | 5                   | 7                   | 12       | ...      | 3       | 9        |
| LINCOLNSHIRE . . . . .   | 9                   | 8                   | 17       | 1        | ...     | 16       |
| LEICESTERSHIRE . . . . . | 5                   | 5                   | 10       | 1        | 4       | 5        |
| WARWICKSHIRE . . . . .   | 9                   | 7                   | 16       | 5        | 1       | 10       |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE . . .   | 4                   | 2                   | 6        | 2        | ...     | 4        |
|                          | <hr/> 43            | <hr/> 35            | <hr/> 78 | <hr/> 14 | <hr/> 9 | <hr/> 55 |

It will be seen by the above summary that in the six Midland Counties, where there are 78 newspapers, 14 only are full-priced journals. There are 9 that have established an intermediate price, and 55, including 21 of the old family (existing prior to 1855), are “cheap” papers. Among these—besides the old paper at Boston of the date of

1804, are the following: viz., One in 1833, at Stamford; one in 1846, in Nottinghamshire; two in 1847—one at Lincoln and one at Boston; and one in 1848, at Barton.

NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

|                    | No. of News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.  |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| DERBYSHIRE . . .   | 17                      | 7        | 4                  | 2                 | 4        |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE .  | 12                      | 3        | 3                  | 2                 | 4        |
| LINCOLNSHIRE . .   | 17                      | 3        | 3                  | 2                 | 9        |
| LEICESTERSHIRE . . | 10                      | 5        | 2                  | 1                 | 2        |
| WARWICKSHIRE . .   | 16                      | 9        | 2                  | 2                 | 3        |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE   | 6                       | 3        | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
|                    | <hr/> 78                | <hr/> 30 | <hr/> 15           | <hr/> 9           | <hr/> 24 |

## CHAPTER VII.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS CONTINUED—NORTHERN COUNTIES—WALES—  
SUMMARIES OF NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN ENGLAND AND WALES—  
SUMMARY OF NEWSPAPER POLITICS.

IN the NORTHERN COUNTIES of England we have a numerous press race to deal with, and the inhabitants of those counties have a large newspaper press family to maintain, including a numerous progeny—74 in number—to which the Act of the 18th & 19th Victoria, c. 27, gave birth, commencing in 1855. The old, middle-aged, and young family in these counties number altogether 175; of which 127 belong to the two great counties of York and Lancaster, 64 being natives of Yorkshire, and 63 of Lancashire. The maintenance of the young family is not in these counties, nor indeed in any part of the United Kingdom, so costly as those of their elder brethren; but still they run away with millions of *pence*, not like the “Farthing Posts” of former days, accepting a farthing, or like the young *Clerkenwell News* of the present day, a halfpenny, but demanding a *penny*, and in some cases three-halfpence; some, indeed, will not *sell* themselves for less than twopence. The old newspaper press family in YORKSHIRE, six in number, are the following, their births having taken place in the

eighteenth century: The *Leeds Mercury*\* in 1718; the *Leeds Intelligencer* in 1754; the *Doncaster Gazette* in 1786; the *Hull Packet* in 1787; the *Hull Advertiser* in 1794; and the *York Herald* in 1790. The first newspaper in Yorkshire was the *York Mercury*, a very small quarto, which came out about the year 1715. Its title was changed in 1728 to the *Courant*, which is now incorporated with the *York Herald*. The "Yorkshireman," which was brought out in 1834, is also united to the *York Herald*.

The existence of the next newspaper generation extant in Yorkshire commenced in 1819, at York and Sheffield, almost simultaneously. In that year, at Sheffield, the *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent* made its appearance. It was at first considered as an obtrusion by some of the inhabitants, but it was joyfully hailed by others. James Montgomery's newspaper, the *Sheffield Iris*, was existing at that time, and had been carried on by him successfully for a quarter of a century; but there is a tide in the affairs of newspapers as well as of men. Montgomery for many years had enjoyed the flood-tide of popular favour. "He had always advocated in his paper the principles of reform, of civil and religious liberty, the abolition of negro slavery, and all the views adopted by the more advanced class of politicians of his age," but towards the latter part of his editorial life, his friends on the popular side

\* Leeds had no newspaper prior to the *Mercury*. The date of its birth is given in "Mitchell" as 1718; in the "History of British Journalism" as 1720.

felt painfully that there was a faint and lowered tone in his leading articles on some of the exciting topics of the day. An ebb tide set in,\* and hence the appearance in 1819 of the *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*, which has now become a great paper in the West Riding, second only to the *Leeds Mercury*.

The young newspaper tribes in Yorkshire and Lancashire have within the last five years nearly doubled the number of their fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers; the latter of which have existed in these counties for nearly a century and a half, and are still in the land of the living. In Yorkshire, thirty of the young papers came into existence between June, 1855, and January, 1860. They are all the progeny of the cheap press; sixteen of them have established themselves in the following towns—eleven in number—where no newspaper had previously existed:—Barnsley (four), Beverley (two), Brighouse, Filey, Middlesborough, Pontefract, Richmond, Rotherham (two), Skipton, Wetherby, Whitby. In Sheffield two daily papers, morning and evening, and a new weekly paper, have been established within the last five years. Sheffield is the only town in Yorkshire where a daily paper is published. The *Daily Telegraph* there is a penny journal. It anticipates the news in the London

\* There was no ebbing of his popularity as a *poet*. "On disposing of his paper and retiring into private life in 1825, he was invited by some of the most influential of his townspeople to a dinner, which took place on the 4th Nov., his birthday, at which one hundred and sixteen persons were present, and Lord Milton presided."—Holland and Everett's "Life of James Montgomery," vol. iv. p. 133.

papers by telegraphic reports, giving the latest foreign news and the Parliamentary proceedings of the previous night. It was established in June, 1855, and now publishes an occasional supplement of twelve pages. The number of newspapers in Yorkshire now existing, published at different periods since 1717, is as follows:—From 1717 to 1800, six; from 1800 to 1830, three; from 1830 to 1855, twenty-five; from 1855 to 1860, thirty; total, sixty-four.

In LANCASHIRE there appears to be but one ancient newspaper extant; that is *Gore's Liverpool General Advertiser*, whose birth was in 1765. The progenitor of the Lancashire press appears to have been the "Liverpool Courant," long since defunct, which came out in 1712. It contained the announcement of *one* "ship arrived," and one outward bound for Dublin; and *two* advertisements, one from "a governess or female teacher" from London, who, in addition to reading, "also learneth young gentlewomen to mark, work, point, make plain work, flourishing, embroidery, and dressing of heads after the newest mode, and to the best advantage."\* Manchester had no newspaper till 1730. The oldest now extant there is the *Manchester Guardian*, founded in 1821.

The sixty-three newspapers in Lancashire comprise twenty-seven of the young press; the oldest dating its birth not farther back than 1855; and of these twenty-three are of the cheap press.

\* See "History of British Journalism," vol. i. p. 272, and Brooke's "Liverpool in the Last Quarter of the Eighteenth Century," p. 92.

Twelve of them have reared themselves in towns where no newspapers had previously existed: viz., Accrington, Ashton-under-Lyne (two), Burnley, Heywood, Middleton, Prescott, Rochdale (two), Salford, St. Helens, Todmorden. The newspapers published in Liverpool are eighteen in number. At Manchester there are eight. Liverpool has four daily papers; two—which appeared in 1811 and 1853—now become pennypapers;—one which came out in 1826, now published at  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ , and one, a penny paper, which appeared in 1855. Manchester has two daily penny papers, formerly full-priced; one, the *Manchester Guardian*, established in 1821; the other, the *Manchester Daily Examiner and Times*, in 1854. A new weekly paper, an offspring of the *Manchester Guardian* (daily paper), was produced at the beginning of the present year, called the *Manchester Weekly Guardian and Express*; so that the two daily papers published at Manchester have now each a weekly journal, which they publish at  $2d.$ , both being of huge size, with a legion of advertisements in each. The offshoot of the *Manchester Daily Examiner and Times* is the *Manchester Weekly Times*.\*

Several of the old weekly papers in Lancashire, including some at Liverpool, have, since 1854, been reduced in price to a level with that of the papers published since the abolition of the stamp duty, making the total number of “cheap papers” in Lancashire forty-four. In Lancaster (the county town)

\* A new weekly paper, the *Manchester Review*, came out in January, 1860.

no newspaper appears to have been established for upwards of twenty years. The one of latest date—there being only two—was brought out in 1837. Of the newspapers now existing in Lancashire, one only appears to have been published during a period of thirty-five years. That is *Gore's Liverpool General Advertiser*, which we have before referred to as being the oldest paper extant in the county.\* From 1800 to 1830, twelve of the existing papers were established; from 1830 to 1855, there were twenty-three; from 1855 to 1860, twenty-seven; total, sixty-three.

In three of the other northern counties, Northumberland, Chester, and Cumberland, we find six papers of the eighteenth century still existing: the *Newcastle Courant*, in 1711;† the *Newcastle Chronicle*, in 1764; the *Chester Courant*, in 1730; the *Chester Chronicle*, in 1773; the *Cumberland Pacquet*, at Whitehaven, in 1774; and the *Carlisle Journal*, in 1798.‡ These three counties, with Durham and Westmoreland, number together forty-eight newspapers; seventeen of which, in four of these counties, have come into existence since 1854, and are all offsprings of the cheap press, including a daily penny paper, the *Northern Daily Express*,

\* The *Southport Visitor*, which reduced its price to one penny, has lately "doubled," and is now published twice a week.

† "The *Newcastle Courant* was established August 11, 1711, and has continued to be published every week without intermission from that date. During the 149 years it has had only five proprietors."—Mitchell's "Newspaper-Press Directory."

‡ This paper now publishes two editions—one with a supplement at 3½d., the other at 1d.

at Newcastle. In Westmoreland there are only two papers, both of middle age, the birth of one being in 1811, that of the other in 1818. Westmoreland is the only county in England where no newspaper has been established since the abolition of the stamp duty. Six penny papers have, within the last five years, established themselves in the five following towns: Birkenhead, Congleton (two), Bishop Auckland, Penrith, and Wigton. The increase in the number of newspapers in four of these northern counties has been, in Chester, from seven to thirteen; in Northumberland, from nine to thirteen; in Cumberland, from five to nine; in Durham, from eight to eleven. Durham, it seems, had no newspaper until 1814, when the *Durham County Advertiser* appeared. Between 1711, when the *Newcastle Courant*, the oldest paper in the five counties, was founded, and 1855, thirty papers now existing in those counties were established. During the following periods: from 1710 to 1800, six; from 1800 to 1830, nine; from 1830 to 1855, sixteen; from 1855 to 1860, seventeen: total, forty-eight.

In Yorkshire, Lancashire, and the other northern counties, the newspapers are published as follows: daily papers, nine; semi-weekly, two; twice a week, four; weekly, one hundred and fifty-one; fortnightly, five; monthly, four: total, one hundred and seventy-five.

## NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE NORTHERN COUNTIES.

|                    | 1710<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total. | PRICES. |    |     |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|---------|----|-----|
|                    |                     |                     |        | F.      | l. | s.  |
| YORKSHIRE . . . .  | 34                  | 30                  | 64     | 6       | 13 | 45  |
| LANCASHIRE . . . . | 36                  | 27                  | 63     | 6       | 10 | 47  |
| CHESHIRE . . . .   | 7                   | 6                   | 13     | 4       | 1  | 8   |
| DURHAM . . . .     | 8                   | 3                   | 11     | 7       | 1  | 3   |
| NORTHUMBERLAND . . | 9                   | 4                   | 13     | 6       | 1  | 6   |
| CUMBERLAND . . . . | 5                   | 4                   | 9      | 3       | 1  | 5   |
| WESTMORELAND . . . | 2                   | ...                 | 2      | 2       |    |     |
|                    | 101                 | 74                  | 175    | 34      | 27 | 114 |

It will be observed, by the above enumeration, that in the counties of York and Lancaster, out of one hundred and seventy-five papers, twelve only are full-priced; while in the other five counties, the number of full-priced papers and cheap papers is equal: viz., twenty-two of each. Of the total number of cheap papers in the seven northern counties, seventy have been established since the abolition of the stamp duty, and forty-four are old papers which were formerly published at full price, but are now reduced to the price of the cheap press, the oldest of them being the *Liverpool Courier*, established in 1808.

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN THE NORTHERN COUNTIES.

|                    | No. of News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter. |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| YORKSHIRE . . . .  | 64                      | 29       | 7                  | 11                | 17      |
| LANCASHIRE . . . . | 63                      | 22       | 13                 | 8                 | 20      |
| CHESHIRE . . . .   | 13                      | 5        | 3                  | 1                 | 4       |
| DURHAM . . . .     | 11                      | 5        | 2                  | 2                 | 2       |
| NORTHUMBERLAND . . | 13                      | 5        | 2                  | ...               | 6       |
| CUMBERLAND . . . . | 9                       | 6        | 3                  |                   |         |
| WESTMORELAND . . . | 2                       | 1        | 1                  |                   |         |
|                    | 175                     | 73       | 31                 | 22                | 49      |

SUMMARY showing the number of London and provincial newspapers at two periods: (1) Between 1665 and 1855; (2) between 1855 and 1860, with the prices:—

|                            | 1665.<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.     | Prices.    |           |            |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                            |                      |                     |            | F.         | I.        | C.         |
| LONDON . . . . .           | 110                  | 92                  | 202        | 142        | 25        | 35         |
| HOME COUNTIES . . . . .    | 39                   | 37                  | 76         | 25         | 10        | 41         |
| NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES . | 21                   | 21                  | 42         | 10         | 5         | 27         |
| WESTERN COUNTIES . . . . . | 49                   | 35                  | 84         | 25         | 14        | 45         |
| OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES .  | 51                   | 35                  | 86         | 31         | 8         | 47         |
| MIDLAND COUNTIES . . . . . | 43                   | 35                  | 78         | 14         | 9         | 55         |
| NORTHERN COUNTIES . . . .  | 102                  | 73                  | 175        | 34         | 27        | 114        |
|                            | <u>415</u>           | <u>328</u>          | <u>743</u> | <u>281</u> | <u>98</u> | <u>364</u> |

Of the above total number (364) of “cheap papers,” are those—some being very old papers—that had previously existed at higher prices, and have now come down to a level in price with the cheap press.

SUMMARY showing the politics of the London and provincial papers:—

|                            | No. of<br>News-<br>papers. | Libe-<br>ral. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.    |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------|
| LONDON . . . . .           | 202                        | 53            | 23                 | 19                | 107        |
| HOME COUNTIES . . . . .    | 76                         | 29            | 15                 | 6                 | 26         |
| NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES   | 42                         | 22            | 8                  | 4                 | 8          |
| WESTERN COUNTIES . . . . . | 84                         | 27            | 20                 | 8                 | 29         |
| OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES .  | 86                         | 32            | 17                 | 10                | 27         |
| MIDLAND COUNTIES . . . . . | 78                         | 30            | 15                 | 9                 | 24         |
| NORTHERN COUNTIES . . . .  | 175                        | 73            | 31                 | 22                | 49         |
|                            | <u>743</u>                 | <u>266</u>    | <u>129</u>         | <u>78</u>         | <u>270</u> |

We have now got into WALES, where we find the press family small—only twenty-five in number. There seems to have been no newspaper published in the Principality prior to 1804, when the *Cambrian*, at Swansea, was established. There are no

papers even now in five of the Welsh counties. The *Cambrian*, in 1804, was followed, in 1807, by the *North Wales Chronicle*. From that time to 1830, only four other papers, now existing, appear to have been published in the Principality, and twelve only during the succeeding twenty-five years. From 1855 to 1860 the number had increased by seven (all the low-priced papers) in four of the counties, making altogether twenty-five published weekly.

## NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS IN WALES.

|                          | 1804<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | PRICES. |         |          |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|
|                          |                     |                     |          | F.      | I.      | C.       |
| BRECKNOCKSHIRE . . . .   | 1                   | ...                 | 1        | 1       | ...     | 1        |
| CAERMARTHENSHIRE . . . . | 2                   | ...                 | 2        | 2       |         |          |
| CAERNARVONSHIRE . . . .  | 2                   | 2                   | 4        | 2       | ...     | 2        |
| DENBIGHSHIRE . . . . .   | 2                   | ...                 | 2        | ...     | ...     | 2        |
| FLINTSHIRE . . . . .     | 2                   | 1                   | 3        | 1       | ...     | 2        |
| GLAMORGANSHIRE . . . . . | 6                   | 3                   | 9        | 2       | 2       | 5        |
| PEMBROKESHIRE . . . . .  | 3                   | 1                   | 4        | ...     | 2       | 2        |
|                          | <hr/> 18            | <hr/> 7             | <hr/> 25 | <hr/> 7 | <hr/> 4 | <hr/> 14 |

Of the fourteen cheap papers in Wales, seven were established prior to 1854; one, at Brecon, being an old paper, dating as far back as 1817, and formerly a full-priced journal.

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN WALES.

|                        | No. of<br>Papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter. |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| BRECKNOCKSHIRE . . . . | 1                 | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1       |
| CAERMARTHENSHIRE . . . | 2                 | ...      | 1                  | 1                 |         |
| CAERNARVONSHIRE . . .  | 4                 | 2        | 1                  | ...               | 1       |
| DENBIGHSHIRE . . . .   | 2                 | 1        | 1                  |                   |         |
| FLINTSHIRE . . . . .   | 3                 | ...      | 1                  | ...               | 2       |
| GLAMORGANSHIRE . . .   | 9                 | 5        | 1                  | ...               | 3       |
| PEMBROKESHIRE . . . .  | 4                 | 1        | 1                  | 1                 | 1       |
|                        | <hr/> 25          | <hr/> 9  | <hr/> 6            | <hr/> 2           | <hr/> 8 |

SUMMARY, showing the establishment at four different periods of the newspapers extant in England and Wales, from 1665 to 1860:—

## NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS.

|                                    | 1665 to<br>1800. | 1800 to<br>1830. | 1830 to<br>1855. | 1855 to<br>1860. | Total.     |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| LONDON . . . . .                   | 16               | 17               | 77               | 92               | 202        |
| HOME COUNTIES . . . . .            | 7                | 7                | 25               | 37               | 76         |
| NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES . . . . . | 5                | 2                | 14               | 21               | 42         |
| WESTERN COUNTIES . . . . .         | 10               | 12               | 27               | 35               | 84         |
| OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES . . . . .  | 12               | 6                | 33               | 35               | 86         |
| MIDLAND COUNTIES . . . . .         | 7                | 9                | 27               | 35               | 78         |
| NORTHERN COUNTIES . . . . .        | 13               | 24               | 64               | 74               | 175        |
| WALES . . . . .                    | ...              | 6                | 12               | 7                | 25         |
|                                    | <u>70</u>        | <u>83</u>        | <u>279</u>       | <u>336</u>       | <u>768</u> |

SUMMARY of cheap newspapers in England and Wales, comprising—1. The papers that were in existence prior to the establishment of the cheap press, most of them having been published at full prices until the abolition of the stamp duty in 1855, when they became cheap papers. 2. The young papers which have come into existence between June, 1855, and January, 1860:—

|                                    | Old<br>Papers. | Young<br>Papers. | Total.     |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------|
| LONDON . . . . .                   | 10             | 25               | 35         |
| HOME COUNTIES . . . . .            | 5              | 36               | 41         |
| NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES . . . . . | 6              | 21               | 27         |
| WESTERN COUNTIES . . . . .         | 13             | 32               | 45         |
| OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES . . . . .  | 15             | 32               | 47         |
| MIDLAND COUNTIES . . . . .         | 21             | 34               | 55         |
| NORTHERN COUNTIES . . . . .        | 44             | 70               | 114        |
| WALES . . . . .                    | 7              | 7                | 14         |
|                                    | <u>121</u>     | <u>257</u>       | <u>378</u> |

SUMMARY showing the number of towns in England and Wales where newspapers (extant)

have been established, since the cheap press brought them into existence, between 1855 and 1860:—

|                               | Towns. | Newspapers. |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| HOME COUNTIES . . . . .       | 17     | 19          |
| NORFOLK CIRCUIT COUNTIES . .  | 14     | 16          |
| WESTERN COUNTIES . . . . .    | 18     | 20          |
| OXFORD CIRCUIT COUNTIES . . . | 16     | 19          |
| MIDLAND COUNTIES . . . . .    | 11     | 12          |
| NORTHERN COUNTIES . . . . .   | 26     | 34          |
| WALES . . . . .               | ...    | ...         |
|                               | <hr/>  | <hr/>       |
|                               | 102    | 120         |

## CHAPTER VIII.

NEWSPAPER PRESS IN SCOTLAND—BIRTH IN 1699 OF THE “EDINBURGH GAZETTE”—NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN SCOTLAND—SCOTCH NEWSPAPER POLITICS.

“THE victorious arms of Cromwell communicated to Scotland the first newspaper. It appeared at Leith in October, 1653, under the title of ‘*Mercurius Politicus*;

’ but in November, 1654, was transferred to Edinburgh, where it continued to be published until the 11th of April, 1660, when it came out under the name of ‘*Mercurius Publicus*.’ This paper was a reprint, for the information of the English soldiers, of a London publication, entitled a ‘*Diurnal of some Passages and Affairs*.’ But a newspaper of native manufacture soon made its appearance under the title of ‘*Mercurius Caledonius*.’ The first number of this journal was published at Edinburgh, on the 31st of December, 1660, ‘comprising,’ as its title bears, ‘the Affairs in Agitation in Scotland, with a Summary of Foreign Intelligence.’ The publication, however, extended only to ten numbers, which, as Chalmers says, ‘were very loyal, very illiterate, and very affected.’ Even after the Restoration, the newspaper published by authority continued to be reprinted in Edinburgh, and the ‘*Mercurius Publicus*’ instructed the natives until it was super-

seded by the 'Kingdom's Intelligencer.' At the era of the Revolution there was not a newspaper printed in Scotland; nor was it until after ten years had elapsed that the *Edinburgh Gazette* was published, in the month of February, 1699, by James Watson, author of a 'History of Printing,' who, after publication of forty numbers, transferred it to one John Ried, whose son continued to print the paper even after the union.\* Its publication has been continued to the present day. It is of the same official character as the *London Gazette*, and, like that Government organ, is issued twice a week.

The progress of the Scotch newspaper press was, in the early years of its existence, slow. We have already remarked that, in 1745, being forty-six years after the birth of the *Edinburgh Gazette*, there were only three papers in Scotland; in 1782 there were eight; in 1792, fourteen; in 1795, thirteen; in 1809, twenty-four; 1815, twenty-six; 1821, thirty-one; 1830, thirty-six; 1833, forty-six; 1836, fifty-four; 1837, sixty-five; 1838, fifty-six; 1839, sixty-six; 1840, seventy; in 1847, seventy-seven. This enumeration includes papers defunct, as well as those extant. To the beginning of 1860 there were in Scotland one hundred and thirty-eight newspapers, of which seventy-three were those of the cheap press, forty-one of which had come into existence between 1855 and 1860.

The oldest newspaper in Scotland, next to the *Edinburgh Gazette*, is the *Edinburgh Evening*

\* "Encyclopædia Britannica."

*Courant*, formerly a full-priced paper, published three times a week. It is now issued twice a week at twopence. It was founded at the beginning of the last century. In December, 1718, the Town Council of Edinburgh gave an exclusive privilege to James McEwen to publish the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, upon condition that he should, before publication, "give one coppie of his print to the magistrates." The establishment of the *Courant* was followed by that of the *Caledonian Mercury*, which, in "Mitchell" and other newspaper lists, is stated to have been founded in 1660, but that seems to be a mistake. The first number of the *Caledonian Mercury* was published on the 28th of April, 1720. In the "Encyclopædia Britannica" it is spoken of as the *sequel* of "Mercurius Caledonius," which was founded in 1660, and of which the first number appeared on the 31st December in that year; but the publication of that paper extended to only ten numbers, the last of which was dated 22nd to the 28th of March, 1661. The "sequel," therefore, came after a lapse of more than half a century. "Now," says Mr. Andrews, "as the 'Mercurius Caledonius,' the first native Scottish newspaper, had ceased to exist for sixty years—rather a protracted case of suspended animation—and had never lived above ten weeks, it must be confessed a bold stroke on the part of the projector of the newspaper to profess to have resuscitated, after so long a period, a journal which might be reckoned to have come almost still-born into the world; but the founder, William Rolland,

a lawyer, boldly brought it forth as a continuation of the 'Mercurius Caledonius;' and to this day, for it still exists, it is by some stated to be the oldest paper in Scotland."\* It was formerly published three times a week, and was a full-priced journal. It became a daily paper in 1772, and is now published at a penny.

The following newspapers extant in Scotland were established at the latter part of the last century. The *Aberdeen Journal* (a weekly paper) in 1746; but its publication was suspended for two years after the issuing of the first number, and the date of its birth is therefore generally given as 1748. The *Edinburgh Advertiser*, 1764, now published twice a week; the *Glasgow Courier* (thrice a week), 1796; the *Kelso Mail* (twice a week), 1797; the *Greenock Advertiser* (thrice a week), 1799.

The 138 papers now existing in Scotland include two other daily journals published in Edinburgh—the *Scotsman*, established in 1817, and the *Daily Courant*, recently established. The *Scotsman* originally was published once a week only; it now issues a semi-weekly edition, besides the daily issue. In Glasgow there are twenty-two newspapers, including three penny daily journals. At Dundee there are nine, including a penny daily journal established in 1859. In Argyleshire, where no newspaper had existed prior to 1855, there are now two journals. At Selkirk there is one (established in 1855); and one in Kircudbrightshire, established in 1859.†

\* "History of British Journalism," vol. i. pp. 288-9.

† A weekly paper, the *Orkney Herald*, made its appearance at Kirkwall in April, 1860.

Of the newspapers extant in Scotland to the beginning of 1860, established since 1698, seven (including the *Caledonian Mercury* in 1720) were published up to the year 1800. From that time to 1830 there were fifteen; from 1830 to 1855, sixty-seven; and from 1855 to 1860, forty-nine; making a total of 138. Of these, seven are daily papers, four are published three times a week, thirteen (including the *Edinburgh Gazette*) are issued three times a week, one hundred and four are published weekly, one fortnightly, and nine monthly.

There are several CLASS JOURNALS in Scotland. They advocate the interests of the Episcopal Churches of England and Scotland, the Presbyterian Churches, the Roman Catholic Church, and various religious sects, including the Quakers; also agriculture, and merchandize and commerce. There is also at Inverness a paper of the *illustrated* family—the *Inverness Times*; and at Edinburgh, the *Ladies' Own Journal* (not illustrated). This paper “circulates principally amongst the ladies of Scotland,” and is not *united*, like the *Lady's Newspaper and Pictorial Times* of London, to any *gentleman* journal. It is noticeable, amongst other attractions, or—as the publishers of former times would say—“other diversions,” for the honesty of its advertisement, which is in these words: “This paper does not aspire to be anything more than a suitable receptacle for advertisements of dress, furniture, housekeeping, light literature, amusements, and others especially addressed to ladies.”

The number of newspapers extant in Scotland established between the years 1698 and 1855, and the increase since, is shown in the following SUMMARY, in which the prices are also indicated:—

|                         | NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS. |                     |           | PRICES.  |          |          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                         | 1698<br>to<br>1855.   | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.    | F.       | l.       | s.       |
| ABERDEENSHIRE . . .     | 3                     | 3                   | 6         | 3        | 1        | 2        |
| ARGYLESHIRE . . . .     | ...                   | 2                   | 2         | ...      | ...      | 2        |
| AYRSHIRE . . . . .      | 3                     | 2                   | 5         | 2        | 2        | 1        |
| BANFFSHIRE . . . . .    | 1                     | 1                   | 2         | 1        | ...      | 1        |
| CAITHNESS-SHIRE . . .   | 2                     | ...                 | 2         | 2        |          |          |
| CLACKMANNANSHIRE . .    | 2                     | ...                 | 2         | ...      | ...      | 2        |
| DUMBARTONSHIRE . . .    | 1                     | 1                   | 2         | ...      | ...      | 2        |
| DUMFRIESSHIRE . . . .   | 4                     | 2                   | 6         | 3        | ...      | 3        |
| EDINBURGH (City) . . .  | 15                    | 5                   | 20        | 5        | 1        | 14       |
| EDINBURGHSHIRE . . .    | 2                     | 2                   | 4         | ...      | 1        | 3        |
| ELGIN . . . . .         | 3                     | 1                   | 4         | 2        | 1        | 1        |
| FIFESHIRE . . . . .     | 5                     | 3                   | 8         | 2        | 1        | 5        |
| FORFARSHIRE . . . . .   | 8                     | 6                   | 14        | 6        | 3        | 5        |
| HADDINGTONSHIRE . . .   | 1                     | 1                   | 2         | ...      | ...      | 2        |
| INVERNESS-SHIRE . . .   | 2                     | 2                   | 4         | 2        | ...      | 2        |
| ISLE OF BUTE . . . . .  | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| KINCARDINESHIRE . . .   | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| KIRCUDBRIGHTSHIRE . .   | ...                   | 1                   | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| KINROSS-SHIRE . . . . . | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| LANARKSHIRE . . . . .   | 15                    | 7                   | 22        | 8        | 4        | 10       |
| NAIRNSHIRE . . . . .    | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| ORKNEYS . . . . .       | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| PEEBLESSHIRE . . . . .  | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | 1        |          |
| PERTHSHIRE . . . . .    | 3                     | 3                   | 6         | 2        | 1        | 3        |
| RENFREWSHIRE . . . . .  | 3                     | 3                   | 6         | ...      | 3        | 3        |
| ROSS-SHIRE . . . . .    | 1                     | ...                 | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| ROXBURGHSHIRE . . . .   | 4                     | 2                   | 6         | 2        | 2        | 2        |
| SELKIRKSHIRE . . . . .  | ...                   | 1                   | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| STIRLINGSHIRE . . . . . | 3                     | 1                   | 4         | ...      | 3        | 1        |
| WIGTONSHIRE . . . . .   | 1                     | 1                   | 2         | 1        | ...      | 1        |
|                         | <hr/> 89              | <hr/> 49            | <hr/> 138 | <hr/> 41 | <hr/> 24 | <hr/> 73 |

In the above summary, showing the seventy-three cheap papers, it should be mentioned that forty-

one of them (established between 1855 and 1860) include seven papers which are issued gratis, being principally advertisement sheets. Thirty-two of the cheap papers comprise those established between 1668 and 1855, and include the *Caledonian Mercury* and other old papers, which now form a large portion of the cheap press.

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN SCOTLAND.

|                     | No. of<br>News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.  |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| ABERDEENSHIRE . .   | 6                          | 3        | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
| ARGYLESIRE . . .    | 2                          | ...      | ...                | 1                 | 1        |
| AYRSIRE . . . .     | 5                          | 4        | 1                  |                   |          |
| BANFFSHIRE . . .    | 2                          | 1        | ...                | 1                 |          |
| CAITHNESS-SHIRE . . | 2                          | 1        | ...                | 1                 |          |
| CLACKMANNANSIRE .   | 2                          | 2        |                    |                   |          |
| DUMBARTONSHIRE .    | 2                          | 1        | 1                  |                   |          |
| DUMFRIESSHIRE . .   | 6                          | 3        | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
| EDINBURGH (City) .  | 20                         | 9        | 2                  | ...               | 9        |
| EDINBURGHSHIRE . .  | 4                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 4        |
| ELGIN . . . . .     | 4                          | 4        |                    |                   |          |
| FIFESHIRE . . . .   | 8                          | 5        | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
| FORFARSHIRE . . .   | 14                         | 10       | 2                  | 1                 | 1        |
| HADDINGTONSHIRE .   | 2                          | ...      | ...                | 1                 | 1        |
| INVERNESS-SHIRE . . | 4                          | 4        |                    |                   |          |
| ISLE OF BUTE . . .  | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| KINCARDINESHIRE .   | 1                          | ...      | ...                | 1                 |          |
| KIRCUDBRIGHTSHIRE . | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| KINROSS-SHIRE . .   | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| LANARKSHIRE . . .   | 22                         | 14       | 1                  | 2                 | 5        |
| NAIRNSHIRE . . . .  | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| ORKNEYS . . . . .   | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| PEEBLESSHIRE . . .  | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| PERTHSHIRE . . . .  | 6                          | 2        | 1                  | 3                 |          |
| RENFREWSHIRE . . .  | 6                          | 4        | ...                | 2                 |          |
| ROSS-SHIRE . . . .  | 1                          | 1        |                    |                   |          |
| ROXBURGHSHIRE . .   | 6                          | 4        | 1                  | ...               | 1        |
| SELKIRKSHIRE . . .  | 1                          | 1        |                    |                   |          |
| STIRLINGSHIRE . . . | 4                          | 2        | 1                  | 1                 |          |
| WIGTONSHIRE . . . . | 2                          | 1        | ...                | ...               | 1        |
|                     | <hr/> 138                  | <hr/> 76 | <hr/> 13           | <hr/> 14          | <hr/> 35 |

## CHAPTER IX.

NEWSPAPER PRESS IN IRELAND—BIRTH OF THE “DUBLIN GAZETTE”—  
NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN IRELAND—IRISH NEWSPAPER POLITICS.

WE are now in the sister kingdom, taking our census of the Irish newspaper population. Ireland, it seems, was far behind England and Scotland in the first birth of its newspaper family. Its press produced nothing in the seventeenth century. The birth of its first paper was in 1700. In that year a daily journal came out in Dublin, and continued for more than half a century. The next newspaper in Dublin (a daily one) was produced in 1728. In the provinces two newspapers made their appearance; one at Waterford, in 1729, and one at Belfast—the *Belfast News Letter*—in 1737. This paper is still in existence, and is the oldest of the Irish press extant. It is now a daily paper, published at twopence. The next of the old Irish papers extant is *Saunders's News Letter*, which came out in Dublin in 1746. The *Freeman's Journal*, Mr. Andrews says, was started about the same time; but some records fix the date of its birth at a much later period. In one it is stated as 1755,\* and in another as 1763.† These three

\* Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates."

† Mitchell's "Newspaper-Press Directory, 1860."

papers are now published daily; the *Belfast News Letter* at twopence, *Saunders's News Letter* at threepence, and the *Freeman's Journal* at fourpence. The other newspapers now existing in Ireland established at the latter end of the last century were the following: viz., The *Sligo Journal*, in 1760; the *Limerick Chronicle* (now published twice a week), in 1766; the *Kilkenny Journal* (twice a week), established in 1767 as the *Leinster Journal*, and first published under its present title in 1830; the *Dublin Gazette* in 1767;\* the *Londonderry Journal* in 1772 (weekly); the *Kerry Evening Post*, 1774 (twice a week); the *Clare Journal*, 1776 (twice a week); the *Dublin Evening Post*, three times a week. This journal was established originally in 1725, but was discontinued for some years. The date of the present series is 1779. The *Dublin Gazette*, which is issued twice a week, corresponds in the nature of its announcements and advertisements with the *London Gazette*. "The patent for publishing it was for many years held by a private individual, who charged the Government for its announcements just the same as if they had been ordinary advertisements; but in 1836 Mr. Price, the then holder of the patent, surrendered it to the Government for a superannuation allowance of 1500*l.* a year. After that time it was resolved that no Government advertisements should be charged for; and that the profits derived from the paper should go into the

\* "The *Dublin Gazette* was first published in an official form about the year 1767."—Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates."

public purse.”\* It is now published at the Government printing office in Abbey-street.

We have remarked that the birth of the newspaper family in Ireland began at a later period than that in England and Scotland, but we should mention that its progress from the time it did commence was greater than that of the Scotch newspaper press. This will appear in one of the summaries. It has been stated that the number of newspapers in Ireland in 1782 was only three, but this must be a mistake, as we find the papers extant in Ireland were, up to 1776, eleven in number. In 1790 there were 27; in 1795, 35; Scotland at that time having only 13; in 1809, Ireland had 37 papers; in 1815, 49; in 1821, 56; in 1830, 60; Scotland having then only 36; in 1833, Ireland had 69; in 1836, 78; 1837, 71; 1838, 77; 1839, 89; in 1840, 90, Scotland having 70; in 1847, 80, Scotland having then reached it within 3, the number in Scotland being 77.

There were existing in Ireland, at the beginning of 1860, 129 newspapers—31 in Dublin and 98 in the other counties, including one established in Leitrim County and one in the County Wicklow; in neither of which counties had any newspaper existed prior to 1855. The total number of papers established in Ireland between 1854 and 1860 appears to be 35, including within that period four penny daily papers established in Dublin, three being morning papers and one an evening paper. There are now in Dublin seven daily papers, five

\* “History of British Journalism,” vol. ii. p. 301.

morning and two evening, and three semi-weekly papers, including the old *Evening Post*. In the other counties in Ireland there are six daily papers—three at Cork, two at Belfast, and one at Waterford.

The CLASS JOURNALS in Ireland are those relating to the Churches of England and Ireland, and the Presbyterian Churches; and there are several that represent various other sects. Others represent the interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures; medicine, surgery, law, literature, and sporting. The great *Mercantile Journal* at Belfast “circulates in the United Kingdom and throughout the world as an important mercantile record.”\* It is published by the authority of Her Majesty’s Customs, under the control of a committee of merchants. There are several advertising sheets published *gratis* in Ireland, amongst which are two in Dublin, and one at Belfast.

The newspapers extant in Ireland to 1860 were published during the following periods: From the first issuing of the *Dublin Gazette* to 1800, 11; from 1800 to 1830, 20; from 1830 to 1855, 62; from 1855 to 1860, 35; making a total of 129; of these, 13 are daily papers, 9 are published three times a week, 18 twice a week, 83 weekly, 3 fortnightly, and 3 monthly. Eleven of the old papers have within the last few years reduced their prices to a level with those of the young press, and there are now in Ireland altogether 34 cheap papers, two of

\* Mitchell’s “Newspaper Press Directory.”

which have been recently established in Leitrim and Wicklow counties.

## NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN IRELAND.

|                   | 1710<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.    | PRICES.  |          |          |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                   |                     |                     |           | F..      | I.       | C.       |
| ANTRIM . . . .    | 5                   | 4                   | 9         | 1        | 1        | 7        |
| ARMAGH . . . .    | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | 1        | ...      | 1        |
| CARLOW . . . .    | 2                   | 1                   | 3         | 2        | ...      | 1        |
| CLARE . . . .     | 2                   | 1                   | 3         | ...      | 3        |          |
| CORK . . . .      | 3                   | 2                   | 5         | 1        | 2        | 2        |
| DONEGAL . . . .   | 1                   | ...                 | 1         | ...      | 1        |          |
| DOWN . . . .      | 2                   | 2                   | 4         | ...      | 3        | 1        |
| DUBLIN . . . .    | 23                  | 8                   | 31        | 13       | 7        | 11       |
| FERMANAGH . . .   | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | 1        | 1        |          |
| GALWAY . . . .    | 5                   | ...                 | 5         | 5        |          |          |
| KERRY . . . .     | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | ...      | 2        |          |
| KILKENNY . . . .  | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | ...      | 2        |          |
| KING'S COUNTY . . | 1                   | 2                   | 3         | 2        | ...      | 1        |
| LEITRIM . . . .   | ...                 | 1                   | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
| LIMERICK . . . .  | 4                   | ...                 | 4         | 3        | ...      | 1        |
| LONDONDERRY . .   | 4                   | 1                   | 5         | 3        | 2        |          |
| LONGFORD . . . .  | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | 1        | 1        |          |
| LOUTH . . . .     | 2                   | ...                 | 2         | 2        |          |          |
| MAYO . . . .      | 4                   | ...                 | 4         | 4        |          |          |
| MEATH . . . .     | 3                   | 1                   | 4         | 2        | 1        | 1        |
| MONAGHAN . . . .  | 1                   | ...                 | 1         | 1        |          |          |
| QUEEN'S COUNTY .  | 1                   | ...                 | 1         | 1        |          |          |
| ROSCOMMON . . .   | 3                   | 2                   | 5         | 3        | 2        |          |
| SLIGO . . . .     | 3                   | 1                   | 4         | 4        |          |          |
| TIPPERARY . . .   | 4                   | 1                   | 5         | 5        |          |          |
| TYRONE . . . .    | 1                   | ...                 | 1         | 1        |          |          |
| WATERFORD . . .   | 5                   | 1                   | 6         | 3        | 2        | 1        |
| WESTMEATH . . .   | 3                   | 1                   | 4         | 1        | 2        | 1        |
| WEXFORD . . . .   | 2                   | 5                   | 7         | 3        | ...      | 4        |
| WICKLOW . . . .   | ...                 | 1                   | 1         | ...      | ...      | 1        |
|                   | <hr/> 94            | <hr/> 35            | <hr/> 129 | <hr/> 63 | <hr/> 32 | <hr/> 34 |

The above enumeration of cheap papers includes six which, as advertising publications, are issued gratis. It will be seen that in Ireland *only*—not

in England or Scotland—the full-priced journals outnumber the cheap papers. The politics of the Irish papers seem to preponderate in favour of Conservative principles, as will be seen by the following summary:—

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN IRELAND.

|                 | No. of<br>News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.  |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| ANTRIM . . .    | 9                          | 3        | 2                  | ...               | 4        |
| ARMAGH . . .    | 2                          | ...      | 2                  | ...               |          |
| CARLOW . . .    | 3                          | 1        | 1                  | ...               | 1        |
| CLARE . . . .   | 3                          | 1        | 1                  | ...               | 1        |
| CORK . . . .    | 5                          | 2        | 1                  | ...               | 2        |
| DONEGAL . . .   | 1                          | ...      | 1                  |                   |          |
| DOWN . . . .    | 4                          | 1        | 2                  | 1                 |          |
| DUBLIN . . .    | 31                         | 8        | 6                  | 3                 | 14       |
| FERMANAGH . .   | 2                          | ...      | 1                  | 1                 |          |
| GALWAY . . .    | 5                          | 3        | 2                  |                   |          |
| KERRY . . .     | 2                          | ...      | 1                  | 1                 |          |
| KILKENNY . .    | 2                          | 1        | 1                  |                   |          |
| KING'S COUNTY . | 3                          | ...      | 1                  | 1                 | 1        |
| LEITRIM . . .   | 1                          | ...      | ...                | ...               | 1        |
| LIMERICK . . .  | 4                          | 2        | ...                | ...               | 2        |
| LONDONDERRY .   | 5                          | 2        | 3                  |                   |          |
| LONGFORD . .    | 2                          | 1        | 1                  |                   |          |
| LOUTH . . . .   | 2                          | 2        |                    |                   |          |
| MAYO . . . .    | 4                          | 1        | 2                  | ...               | 1        |
| MEATH . . . .   | 4                          | 2        | 1                  | ...               | 1        |
| MONAGHAN . .    | 1                          | ...      | 1                  |                   |          |
| QUEEN'S COUNTY  | 1                          | ...      | ...                | 1                 |          |
| ROSCOMMON . .   | 5                          | 2        | 1                  | 1                 | 1        |
| SLIGO . . . .   | 4                          | 1        | 3                  |                   |          |
| TIPPERARY . .   | 5                          | 1        | 2                  | 2                 |          |
| TYRONE . . .    | 1                          | ...      | 1                  |                   |          |
| WATERFORD . .   | 6                          | 3        | 2                  | ...               | 1        |
| WESTMEATH . .   | 4                          | 1        | 2                  | ...               | 1        |
| WEXFORD . . .   | 7                          | 1        | 1                  | 1                 | 4        |
| WICKLOW . . .   | 1                          | 1        |                    |                   |          |
|                 | <hr/> 129                  | <hr/> 39 | <hr/> 42           | <hr/> 12          | <hr/> 36 |

## CHAPTER X.

## NEWSPAPERS EXTANT IN THE BRITISH ISLANDS—SUMMARIES, ETC.

IN these islands there were, to January, 1860, 15 newspapers extant, the oldest of which was established in Guernsey in 1789. Three (at Jersey) have been published between 1855 and 1860, one being a penny daily paper established in 1855.

|                   | 1788<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.   | Prices.   |         |          |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
|                   |                     |                     |          | F.        | I.      | C.       |
| ISLE OF MAN . . . | 4                   | ...                 | 4        | ...       | 2       | 2        |
| GUERNSEY . . . .  | 3                   | ...                 | 3        | ...       | ...     | 3        |
| JERSEY. . . . .   | 5                   | 3                   | 8        | ...       | 1       | 7        |
|                   | <hr/> 12            | <hr/> 3             | <hr/> 15 | <hr/> ... | <hr/> 3 | <hr/> 12 |

One paper at Guernsey is published three times a week, and one twice a week. At Jersey there are three published twice a week. The rest are weekly papers. Among the papers enumerated in the last column are three advertising publications, which are issued gratuitously.

## NEWSPAPER POLITICS IN THE BRITISH ISLANDS.

|                     | No. of<br>News-<br>papers. | Liberal. | Conser-<br>vative. | Neuter. |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|
| ISLE OF MAN . . . . | 4                          | 1        | 1                  | 2       |
| GUERNSEY . . . . .  | 3                          | 2        | ...                | 1       |
| JERSEY . . . . .    | 8                          | 4        | 2                  | 2       |
|                     | <hr/> 15                   | <hr/> 7  | <hr/> 3            | <hr/> 5 |

SUMMARY, showing the number of newspapers extant in the United Kingdom and British islands at two periods: (1) Between 1665 and 1855; (2) between 1855 and 1860, with the different prices:—

|                   | 1665<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.     | Prices.   |           |           |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                   |                     |                     |            | F.        | I.        | C.        |
| ENGLAND . . . .   | 415                 | 328                 | 743        | 281       | 98        | 364       |
| WALES . . . .     | 18                  | 7                   | 25         | 7         | 4         | 14        |
| SCOTLAND . . . .  | 89                  | 49                  | 138        | 41        | 24        | 73        |
| IRELAND . . . .   | 94                  | 35                  | 129        | 63        | 32        | 34        |
| BRITISH ISLES . . | 12                  | 3                   | 15         | ...       | 3         | 12        |
|                   | <hr/> 628           | <hr/> 422           | <hr/> 1050 | <hr/> 392 | <hr/> 161 | <hr/> 497 |

SUMMARY of newspaper politics in the United Kingdom and the British islands:—

|                   | No. of<br>News-<br>papers. | Liberal.  | Conser-<br>vative. | Inde-<br>pendent. | Neuter.   |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| ENGLAND . . . .   | 743                        | 266       | 129                | 78                | 270       |
| WALES . . . .     | 25                         | 9         | 6                  | 2                 | 8         |
| SCOTLAND . . . .  | 138                        | 76        | 13                 | 14                | 35        |
| IRELAND . . . .   | 129                        | 39        | 42                 | 12                | 36        |
| BRITISH ISLES . . | 15                         | 7         | 3                  | ...               | 5         |
|                   | <hr/> 1050                 | <hr/> 397 | <hr/> 193          | <hr/> 106         | <hr/> 354 |

SUMMARY, showing the establishment at four different periods of the newspapers extant in the United Kingdom and the British islands from 1665 to 1860:—

|                         | 1665<br>to<br>1800. | 1800<br>to<br>1830. | 1830<br>to<br>1855. | 1855<br>to<br>1860. | Total.     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| ENGLAND . . . . .       | 70                  | 77                  | 267                 | 329                 | 743        |
| WALES . . . . .         | ...                 | 6                   | 12                  | 7                   | 25         |
| SCOTLAND . . . . .      | 7                   | 15                  | 67                  | 49                  | 138        |
| IRELAND . . . . .       | 11                  | 20                  | 62                  | 35                  | 129        |
| BRITISH ISLANDS . . . . | ...                 | 8                   | 3                   | 4                   | 15         |
|                         | <hr/> 88            | <hr/> 126           | <hr/> 411           | <hr/> 424           | <hr/> 1050 |

SUMMARY of cheap papers in the United Kingdom and the British islands, comprising: (1) The old papers, formerly published at full prices, and now (since the abolition of the stamp duty) become “cheap papers;” (2) the young papers, four years and a half old.

|                         | Old<br>Papers. | Young<br>Papers. | Total.    |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| ENGLAND . . . . .       | 114            | 250              | 364       |
| WALES . . . . .         | 7              | 7                | 14        |
| SCOTLAND . . . . .      | 32             | 41               | 73        |
| IRELAND . . . . .       | 12             | 22               | 34        |
| BRITISH ISLES . . . . . | 9              | 3                | 12        |
|                         | <hr/> 174      | <hr/> 323        | <hr/> 497 |

SUMMARY, showing the number of towns in the United Kingdom where newspapers (extant) have been established since the CHEAP PRESS brought them into existence between 1855 and 1860:—

|                    | Towns.    | News-<br>papers. |
|--------------------|-----------|------------------|
| ENGLAND . . . . .  | 102       | 120              |
| WALES . . . . .    | ...       | ...              |
| SCOTLAND . . . . . | 2         | 2                |
| IRELAND . . . . .  | 2         | 2                |
|                    | <hr/> 106 | <hr/> 124        |

THE END.

